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THE TIMES

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45p

Labour wants emergency action

Patten under pressure on student places

By BEN PRESTON AND JOHN O'LEARY

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, faced demands for emergency action to relieve the unprecedented squeeze on university places yesterday as he returned to work after illness.

Labour stepped up the pressure on Mr Patten as the impact of the government funding cuts on arts and social science courses and the improved A-level pass rate became apparent.

Only about 40,000 of the expected 265,000 university and college places remain

The squeeze on university places this Thursday will increase the pressure on the government to resolve the higher education funding crisis

vacant, with almost 133,000 applications still under consideration. More than 210,000 applications have been rejected, almost 26,500 more than at the same stage last year.

Admissions experts are concerned at the mismatch in competition for arts and science places. While few arts candidates who narrowly missed their target grades are expected to find alternative courses, people who scraped even two A-level passes at grade E are likely to gain a science place.

Ann Taylor, shadow education spokeswoman, said thousands of talented, well-qualified students had been left hanging in the wind by Mr Patten's clumsy and disastrous tinkering with the funding system. "He now has an obligation to ensure all students — both arts and science candidates — are fairly treated. If that requires an emergency funding formula, to restore equity, then he must introduce it without delay."

The confrontation added to the education secretary's difficulties as he returned to his desk almost six weeks after a gastric infection. Officials repeatedly denied that the illness was stress related.

After a briefing by Baroness Blatch, who deputised for Mr Patten, he spent the morning working on his speech for the Conservative party conference. The address, on October 6, is critical as Mr Patten attempts to salvage his career and justify policy retreats over national testing, school league tables and the curriculum.

Examiners are expected to announce the sixth successive rise in GCSE results for more than 500,000 candidates on Thursday. The record pass-rate will fuel concerns about marking standards and present Mr Patten with an early test of his presentation

skills. Last summer, the education secretary caused a political storm by publishing an inspectors' report which declared "limited confidence" in results showing a 29 per cent improvement since the last year of O-levels in 1987. But he is likely to adopt a different stance this year and declare confidence in the improved grades even though a new code of practice for examiners has not been implemented.

Ministerial advisers emphasised that Mr Patten would seek to rally teachers behind the new blueprint for the curriculum and testing prepared last month by Sir Ron Dearing, chairman-designate of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

Mr Patten also faces a bruising spending battle with the Treasury. Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, is anxious to find alternative means of funding expansion in higher education, exploring ways to make graduates shoulder more of their education costs.

The issue has risen to the top of the agenda as controversy grows over the rationing of university places in the arts and social sciences. It follows the decision in December to cut funding by £550 per student for these courses while leaving science unchanged.

The Polytechnics and Colleges Admissions Service said it had rejected more than 104,000 applications by yesterday morning — 15,000 more than at the same stage last year. Tutors were still sifting another 63,000 applications for the remaining 19,600 places. It means that record numbers of disappointed candidates are eligible to join the clearing system, which tries to find them an alternative course.

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John Patten cheerful on his return to work yesterday



Michael Atherton, left, leaving the field of victory yesterday with Alec Stewart

England's bitter year spiced by rare taste of Test triumph

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the worst years in England's cricketing history ended in uncustomed triumph at The Oval yesterday.

Australia, having won the Ashes series 4-0, were beaten by 161 runs in the final Cornhill Test, after which Michael Atherton was reappointed as England captain for the West Indies winter tour that begins in January.

After a week in which Britain's athletes restored some national sporting pride, Atherton's team ended a barren run of 18 Tests against Australia going back to 1986. Only Graham Gooch in yesterday's side knew what it was to win against the oldest of opponents.

The crowd swelled from 5,000 to 12,000 during the afternoon as people left their offices to witness the moment of rare triumph. It came early in the final hour, and was followed by a joyful pitch invasion.

Angus Fraser, who took eight wickets — including the one which secured victory — in his first Test for almost three years, was named as man of the match by Bob Willis and can confidently contemplate a winter in the Caribbean. So can most of the others in yesterday's side.

England had lost nine of ten Tests since beating Pakistan at Headingley last July. That sorry sequence brought

the resignations of Gooch as captain and Ted Dexter as chairman of the England committee, though for both there was satisfaction in yesterday's revival. Gooch played a significant part with the bat and Dexter, whose duties end a week today, goes out on a high note.

Atherton said afterwards: "It was a vital win, a morale-boosting win. It was good to bring young players into a winning atmosphere. They played with some spirit and showed fight. That is the type of side I hope to see."

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Tory right and left clash over higher taxation

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

CONSERVATIVE party tensions flared yesterday as Tristram Gareth-Jones, the former Foreign Office minister, was named as the possible organiser of a vendetta against right-wing critics of John Major.

Tory leaders tried to calm the increasingly bitter battle between left and right after potential victims accused their opponents on the left of attempting to plunge the party into civil war.

Taxation has succeeded Maastricht as the most divisive issue within the party. Differences over how Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, should tackle the projected £50 billion budget deficit were highlighted as Keith Hampson, a prominent leftwinger, urged him to put up the top rate of tax to 45p and John Townend, rightwing chairman of the Tory finance committee, insisted on public spending cuts.

The dispute has now split over into a full-scale battle over the autumn elections to the executive of the 1922 committee. Mr Townend and Sir George Gardiner, chairman of the Thatcherite 92 group, have been targeted by the left for removal from the executive. Mr Townend also faces a challenge for his committee post.

But Conservative MPs were taken aback yesterday when Mr Townend named Mr Gareth-Jones as the potential instigator of suggestions that Mr Major himself backed the revenge attack on MPs who had rebelled against the government or criticised his style of leadership.

Mr Gareth-Jones, an avowed pro-European who piloted the Maastricht bill through the Commons before standing down from the government, has long been regarded as a bogymen by the right; but he has not been noticeably involved up to now in the annual ritual of the backbench committee elections.

Speaking from Spain last

night, Mr Gareth-Jones retorted: "My view is that the party has a simple task to support the prime minister and his policies. It would be very sad now that, when everything was beginning to come right, if the party was to get involved in the kind of things John Townend is talking about. I have no intention of getting involved in any such things."

Asked on BBC Radio whether he was fearful of losing the finance committee chairmanship, Mr Townend replied that he was not. He added: "I think it is very unfortunate, particularly as the people making these statements to the press — I do not know who



Gareth-Jones: named by right-wing critics

they are, whether it is Tristram Gareth-Jones or somebody else on the left, they were not named but we have our ideas who they are — are using John Major's name and saying he was involved. I do not believe that for a minute."

Such a thought was damaging for Mr Major. "What he said when we left for the recess was that he wanted the party to unite. He did not want any recriminations. If the people putting this view forward were successful and the 1922 committee did not continue to be representative of all strands, but only the left and centre left and not the right and centre right, that would be

Continued on page 2, col 5

You can reach into the heart of a man by looking at his tie.

Tie Rack.
American Express Cardmembers welcomed since 1981.
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That'll do nicely.

Chicago-style robbery shatters calm of Northumbrian village

By PAUL WILKINSON

DOWNTOWN Chicago came to up-country Northumbria when armed robbers sealed off a picturesque North Country village in the early hours yesterday, forced their way into a post office and stole its safe.

During the three-hour operation, all telephone lines out of Rothbury, 12 miles west of Alnwick, were cut by the five-man gang to ensure that they could work undisturbed. They also used a stolen van to block the street leading to the scene of the robbery.

People attracted to their windows were threatened with crowbars. One of them, Jessie Heron, 73, said: "It takes a lot to upset me, but by God, I was scared. They

looked terrible, coming along the road, all five of them dressed in black from head to foot."

The robbery, in a community more used to being invaded by tourists, took police by surprise. "About the only crime we get up there is the theft of a sheep," said a spokesman for Northumbria police in Newcastle.

The thieves took almost three hours to get into the unoccupied post office and load the safe into the van. Police said the safe contained a "substantial" sum of money, believed to be about £15,000, as well as stamps, pension books and vehicle excise licences. The spokesman said: "These people meant business."

and it was better that none of the locals got involved once the phone lines were cut.

The robbery began at about 1.15am in what detectives said was "obviously a very organised operation by determined men". As the van, a yellow Astra Merit stolen from a nearby Northumberland County Council depot, slowed across Bridge Street outside the post office, the five men got out. Some were wearing military-style combat dress and balaclava-type ski masks.

As some of them began attacking the entrance to the building others patrolled the

Continued on page 2, col 5

Paul Barker, page 14

Croats prevent UN from helping Muslim Mostar

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BOSNIAN Croats refused to relax their siege of Mostar yesterday, preventing the United Nations delivering food and medicine to the 35,000 Muslims trapped in the Bosnian city.

UN officials said talks with the Croats on plans to deliver 130 tonnes of supplies tomorrow was making little progress. "They are not talking to us," said Lyndall Sachs, spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Sarajevo. "We hope that Wednesday will be the day that the HVO [the Bosnian Croat army] finally decides they are no longer going to be bloody-minded and will allow us to take a convoy through," she added.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, sent an urgent appeal to Croatia to help lift the siege. He said in Bonn that he had urged President Tudjman to influence the Bosnian Croats to permit delivery of relief supplies to Mostar, where the Muslim population is reported to be on the verge of starvation.

France yesterday supported a call from international mediators to the European Community to administer Mostar as part of the recently negotiated Geneva peace accord.

In London, the parents of evacuated Bosnian children said the world should have helped them sooner.

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Minister refuses to rule out 16% rail fare increase

BY TIM JONES
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE government braced itself for a rebellion from its own backbenchers last night as it refused to rule out rail fare increases of almost 12 times the rate of inflation.

At the same time, it was warned that tens of thousands of commuters face a deteriorating service unless funding was increased.

Senior Tories have said that they may seek effectively to wreck the entire rail privatisation programme rather than see their seats threatened by a commuter backlash.

The government's rail watchdog committee claimed that fare rises of more than 16 per cent could be allowed to

Senior Conservatives are threatening to wreck privatisation plans rather than risk a commuter backlash in Tory heartlands

entire operators to keep special travel cards after privatisation. Lord Cairness, the transport minister, said no decisions had yet been taken. "Nobody knows what the fare increases are going to be from January next year."

"It is quite natural that British Rail should look at various options and you are bound to throw up a range of alternatives. Then they are discussed between BR and ministers and a decision is made. We are not at that stage. We are still in the

consultative stage between ministers and British Rail."

Lord Cairness claimed the current fare was part of an annual ritual in which worst-case price rises were leaked before much lower prices were implemented.

He denied that fare increases had reduced commuter numbers. Speaking on BBC radio's *Today* programme, he said: "You know very well why there has been a drop off, and that is because of the recession."

Michael Patterson, secretary of the central transport

consultative committee, claimed the government might allow British Rail to impose high increases to persuade private operators to keep Travelcard and other special deal combined cards.

He said: "The Travelcard is very popular and while the government has refused to guarantee its future, it may be tempted to allow the price rise so that the operators are more likely to keep it after privatisation."

Sir Keith Speed, MP for Ashford, Kent, has threatened a political storm if his constituents are hit by huge rises. Other heartland Tory MPs representing constituencies with large numbers of commuters have also said that rises much higher than the inflation rate would be unacceptable.

They are already threatening to wreck the whole programme by voting with Labour in favour of a Lords amendment to the privatisation bill which would allow British Rail to bid to become a franchise holder.

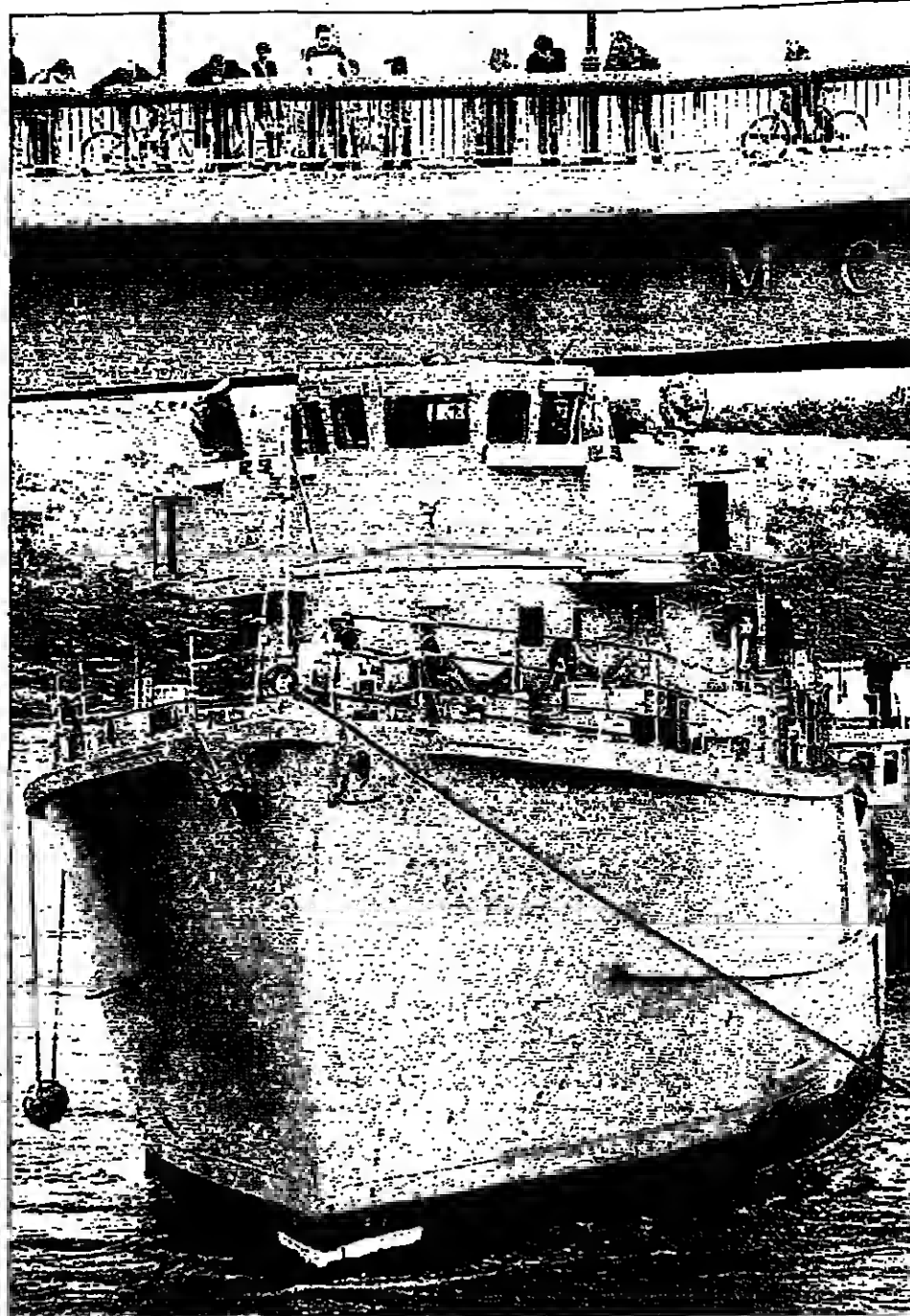
Details of the fare increases were released in documents leaked to the pressure group Transport 2000. They claimed Network SouthEast, which handles more than 400,000 commuters daily, was considering increasing the price of Travelcards by 16.2 per cent. Single standard day tickets by 12 per cent and season tickets by 7.9 per cent. That could add more than £200 to a season ticket for a Brighton commuter who currently pays £2,176 a year.

Another option in the document raises season tickets by 8.5 per cent, the Travelcard by 10.3 per cent and the single standard by 12 per cent.

Under a third option, said to be least favoured, the Travelcard cost would increase by 6.3 per cent, a single standard by 8 per cent and season tickets by 6 per cent.

John Nelson, managing director of Network SouthEast, has said that without huge increases in funding, commuters face a serious deterioration in punctuality and reliability within three years. The network's £450 million subsidy for 1992-3 has been reduced to £218 million for 1994-5.

Lynne Truss, page 14
Leading article, page 15



HMS Kellington, a Royal Navy minesweeper on loan to the Stockton Sea Cadets' Association, wedged under the Princess Diana bridge on the Tees in Stockton, Cleveland. Two tugs pulled it free after the incident on Sunday

Cabinet accused of clinging to secrecy

THE public is still being denied important information despite ministers' promises of more open government, according to a report.

The Campaign for Freedom of Information, which has kept up a concerted effort to achieve greater access to official records, says key facts are being withheld from the public domain.

Maurice Frankel, campaign director, said: "The government is promising to answer questions but is still not letting people see correspondence, documents or reports."

The report lists alleged examples of secrecy, including: hospitals being told not to give any details about contracts made for treating patients;

the government refusing to disclose publicly reports by the Health and Safety Executive about safeguards at dangerous industrial sites;

fire brigades charging to give information about notices served against dangerous premises.

The campaign says in its newspaper *Secrecy* that the white paper that recently heralded the end of years of unnecessary secrecy did not go far enough.

It claims that the proposals had an overwhelming flaw in that they rejected direct access to documents.

However, the campaign welcomes two aspects of the white paper, non-computerised personal files and more access to health and safety information.

It argues that the proposed voluntary code of practice would be more effective if the parliamentary ombudsman were able to enforce disclosure rather than simply recommending it.

The campaign also claims that David Maclean, the former environment minister, agreed to appear in a film about ozone depletion only if he could veto its contents.

The environment department denied that Mr Maclean was trying to suppress information. "He did not refuse to appear in the film for the sake of it. We were not satisfied that the film would be used only for educational purposes. Things got complicated and in the end the minister did not have time to make the film."

Hospital dispute intensifies

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A LONDON health authority plans to use private ambulances to remove patients from a ward earmarked for closure.

Bloomsbury and Islington Health Authority is preparing to hire the private operators after London Ambulance Service union members refused to carry out the work at University College Hospital, where staff are on strike over ward closures.

Candy Udwin, Unison branch secretary, said: "The management tried to book the London Ambulance Service

for this Saturday to remove patients from the first ward to be closed, but Unison members in the LAS refused to move the patients."

"The management are now talking about trying to move the patients using private operators, beginning on Thursday. We will be holding a demonstration on Thursday at 7am. We will be asking the private ambulances not to begin this destruction and refuse to move the patients."

Meanwhile the strikers claimed another victory yesterday when a private plan-

ning firm refused a contract to dismantle equipment in the central London hospital. John Tapp, manager of J & J Tapp Brothers, refused a contract to remove plumbing and shelving from the wards. He said: "We are not a unionised firm and we will be losing money over this. But the people on the picket line have asked me not to do this work and I decided I'm not prepared to do it. I think the health authority is quite wrong in closing these facilities that people need."

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Civil war warning as Tory clash grows

Continued from page 1
very bad for the party and that is the last thing John Major would want. We in the 92 group are supporters of John Major. We voted for him to be leader. This black propaganda is bad for the party and the prime minister and I deplore it."

Mr Townsend said there was always a battle with left and rightwing slates for the elections. "It would be very wise if those people who are making these remarks either came out in public so that we could see who they are or keep quiet. They are undermining party unity and they are trying to create civil war in the party."

Dame Angela Rumbold, Conservative deputy chairman, dismissed suggestions that the Tories were embroiled in civil war. But she urged her colleagues to "keep our eye on the ball" and remember that their real opponents were Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

It has been clear for some time, however, that both Sir George and Mr Townsend have been on an unofficial "hit list" whom the left would like

to see punished for their behaviour during passage of the Maastricht bill in the Commons.

Mr Townsend is now raising more anger by arguing in his post as finance committee chairman against tax increases, an opinion that Mr Clarke will clearly have to consider in the run-up to the November budget. Yesterday Mr Hampson, a close confidant of Michael Heseltine, suggested a 5 per cent rise in the present 40 per cent top rate of tax. Mr Hampson said on the BBC Radio 4 *World at One* programme that raising the top tax rate to 45 per cent would not be a disincentive to "the very rich", but would raise almost £1.8 billion. Mr Townsend said on the same programme: "We have accepted a tax increase package of some £10 billion. What many of us are saying now is that the whole of the burden of dealing with the government's deficit must not be borne by the taxpayer. The government has got to pay its share. We have got to have a meaningful package of public spending cuts."

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Robbers shatter calm of northern village

Continued from page 1
road outside. They shone torches into neighbouring houses and anyone caught in the beam was threatened. The police said nobody was physically assaulted, but they were left in no uncertainty about what might happen to them if they intervened. "One woman witness was pointed at in a very aggressive manner to let her know she had been seen," the spokesman said.

Mrs Heron said: "They had the whole road closed off. I stepped back from the window as they shone a torch at the house. One got on the shoulders of another. It looked like they were doing something to the alarm of the post office. When I went to phone for the police the line was just dead so I stayed inside. There was no point in trying to do anything."

The robbers did not with-

draw until almost two and a half hours later when, Mrs Heron said, "I saw them dragging something out of the building and driving off at high speed."

Police hope that witnesses might have noticed the van, since it would be unusual to see a county council vehicle on the road at that time of night. The van, which has the council logo on its side, was last seen heading west out of town on the B6341 towards the village of Thropton.

Rothbury, population 1,733, has a police station but it operates only what Northumbria Police call "short hours", from 9am to late evening, Monday to Friday. The police spokesman said: "We are currently reviewing the opening hours of such police stations."

Paul Barker, page 14

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PEACE OF MIND. AROUND THE CLOCK.

More pupils missing from 'minibus' school

Three boys aged between 13 and 15 went missing yesterday from Cotsbrook Hall School, near Shifnal in Shropshire, the special school which last week prompted a nationwide police hunt after 11 pupils disappeared in a stolen minibus.

A West Mercia police spokesman said: "We are worried about them being missing in the sense of their young age, but nothing else. Ten of the children in last week's incident were later found, but one pupil is still missing. The private residential school takes up to 25 children referred by education authorities, social services and parents."

Mother freed for baby

Stacey Arne Smith, 23, of Blaengarw, Mid-Glamorgan, jailed for two years in February by Cardiff Crown Court for drug offences, had her sentence halved by the Appeal Court yesterday so that she might be with her sick baby in hospital in London. The decision enabled her immediate release because of time she had served in custody.

Fishing trawler held

A Spanish-owned trawler is being held in Plymouth while charges of illegal fishing are investigated. The boat, *Slebech III*, was intercepted by a Royal Navy fisheries protection vessel 150 miles west of the Isles of Scilly on Sunday morning and arrived in the Devon port under escort yesterday afternoon.

Milligan has by-pass



Spike Milligan, left, the comedian and writer, is recovering in hospital after heart by-pass surgery. Mr Milligan, 75, consulted a cardiologist after feeling short of breath and had the operation in London last Wednesday. His agent said: "It is ironic that this should happen to him as he has been a vegetarian for 30 years, is a non-smoker, drinks only wine, and swims 30 lengths daily."

Father appeals to Kenya

John Ward, the Suffolk hotelier who has spent more than £300,000 trying to find out who killed his daughter Julie in Kenya in 1988, has requested a meeting with President Moi to seek reimbursement. A judge made allegations of a police cover-up when two game wardens were acquitted of the murder of Miss Ward, 28.

Laura off respirator

Laura Davies, the five-year-old suffering from a rejection of her transplanted small intestine, was able to breathe on her own yesterday. Laura, from Manchester, has been taken off a respirator in hospital in Pittsburgh, where she underwent a liver and bowel transplant last year. Her condition is described as critical but stable.

Nasa system probe

Mother freed for baby

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THE TIMES TUESDAY AUGUST 24 1993

HOME NEWS 3

Nasa scours solar system after Mars probe disappears

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY
CORRESPONDENT

NASA scientists were struggling last night to find a multi-million pound space craft lost 450 million miles from Earth on the most important mission to Mars for nearly two decades.

The Mars Observer, a lynchpin in America's push to study and eventually colonise the red planet, disappeared as its fuel tanks and thrusters were being readied to manoeuvre it into a Martian orbit.

During the last 36 hours, engineers have been sending radio signals in the hope of regaining contact, but without success. Fears were growing that a spark may have ignited the Observer's fuel, blowing the £600 million craft apart or causing the tanks to rupture.

Unless the fuel tanks are pressurised, the Observer will spin uselessly past the planet, ending years of planning and adding to the woes of the US space agency.

Building a new craft would take years and would come at a time of increasing pressure on Nasa's budget after a series of embarrassing mishaps. These include the Hubble space telescope, launched with a flawed primary mirror and jittery solar panels, which astronauts will try to repair in

■ Fears are growing that a ruptured fuel tank on the £600m Observer may have blown apart the US mission to the red planet

December. Earlier this month, a US Air Force Titan IV, reportedly carrying one or more spy satellites, blew up after launch from Vandenberg air base.

Nasa is using imaginative technological tricks to salvage 70 per cent of the Galileo spacecraft's 1995-97 exploration of Jupiter, although the craft is handicapped by a jammed main antenna.

Contact with Mars Observer, launched 11 months ago by a Titan rocket from Cape Canaveral, was lost at 1.00 GMT on Sunday as the craft was just 400,000 miles from Mars.

Nasa engineers sent a command switching off the Observer's communication systems to avoid explosions as they warned the fuel in the tanks ready to fire the thruster to push it into orbit. During pressurisation, the tanks are heated up. The engineers were keen to avoid electrical sparks igniting the fuel.

Normal communications should have returned about an hour later, but so far the probe has been silent.

At the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, Glen Cunningham,

manager of the mission, said if that the tanks had failed to pressurise or had ruptured the craft would be unable to fire its thrusters and would be lost.

A spokesman for the laboratory said the team was less serious and due to the observer's antennas pointing the wrong way or its transmitter having failed restart.

The Observer mission, the first return to Mars since two Viking orbiters and landing craft visited in 1976, has been dogged with faults. Rockets have failed to signal that they have fired and communications have repeatedly broken down. This latest crisis is considered the most worrying and frustrating, coming hours before the craft was due to reach its destination.

Nasa had planned to spend until November easing the craft into a near-polar orbit. After that, it was supposed to spend one Martian year, or 687 earth days, photographing and imaging the terrain, weather and climate.

The laboratory spokesman said: "Viking gave us millions of pieces of information but raised many millions of questions. The Observer has a much better scientific package that will allow us to look for the possibility of water in the polar caps or as permafrost. Its cameras have a resolution down to 3ft."

The Mars Observer is designed to slot into orbit automatically without commands from Earth. However, unless communications can be restored, the probe will be unable to share what it sees with mission controllers.

This is not the first mission to Mars to have suffered a setback. The former Soviet Union sent at least 15 and possibly 17 spacecraft toward Mars. Half of those missions failed completely. Contact was lost with the most recent spacecraft sent to Mars, twin Soviet... Phobos probes launched in 1988.

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Nicolette Harrison, 17, with the marquess in 1958

Wife of pop star Fame falls to her death from bridge

BY ANGELA MACKAY

NICOLETTE Powell, wife of the pop star George Fame, plunged to her death from the Clifton suspension bridge in Bristol. The 52-year-old former debutante, who was first married to the Marquess of Londonderry, was buried yesterday.

Known to her friends as Nico, Mrs Powell was at the centre of a sensational divorce from the marquess that involved her son being declared illegitimate. The marriage was dissolved in 1971.

Friends said she had been depressed during the months before she fell to her death on August 13.

An inquest was opened and adjourned last week pending further investigation into the circumstances of her death. However, witnesses suggested that she jumped from the 245ft bridge. Onlookers in a passing boat helped police to pull her quickly from the avon, but she was dead on arrival at Bristol Royal Infirmary. Fame — real name Clive Powell — identified his wife's body but, at the request of her family, her death was kept secret until the funeral at a

church near their Somerset home.

A recent report by Bristol health authority suggested the bridge's walkways should be closed to pedestrians to halt the number of fatal leaps, which number more than a thousand since the bridge opened. The Samaritans have telephone hotlines at either end of the bridge to give the despairing one last chance to talk to someone who might discourage them from suicide.

Nico Powell, the daughter of a wealthy Lloyd's insurance broker, was launched into society when she was 17 and made the marriage of the season to the 20-year-old marquess in 1958. They had two daughters and appeared to have a model relationship for the Swinging Sixties.

In 1970, however, the marquess sued for divorce, naming Fame as co-respondent. The following year, the marquess was back in court alleging that he was not the father of the then Lady Londonderry's son, Tristan, who stood to inherit his putative father's title. Blood tests proved that the



George Fame and Nicolette Powell. They married after her divorce

marquess could not be the 18-month-old boy's father. Soon afterwards, Fame married Nico at Marylebone Register Office. The couple were dressed in the height of seventies fashion, Fame in a bottle green velvet suit and no tie and Nico in a blue midi dress. Fame declared that he decided to marry Nico when the baby had been born but "circumstances made it impossible". He was familiar

with the Londonderry set and had appeared at Annabel's, the West End club named after the marquess's sister, Lady Annabel Burley.

Fame was born in a small Lancashire mining town near Wigan and was a weaving apprentice before he found stardom with the Blue Flames, with Alan Price and as a solo artist. After their wedding 21 years ago, the couple lived in a rambling

farmhouse in Stoke Trister, Somerset.

Yesterday, Fame returned to the farm home with family and friends, including sons Tristan, 24, and James, 20, in a cortege of three hearses laden with flowers.

A friend said that the family was too upset to talk. He said: "There is nothing to say tonight."

Obituary, page 17



Mother, 16, threw baby from window

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A TEENAGER wept yesterday as she admitted throwing her new-born daughter from a bedroom window because she was frightened that her mother would discover the illegitimate birth.

Neighbours heard the baby whimpering but thought it was an injured cat and took no notice. The Old Bailey was told. The 6lb girl died from head injuries and exposure. Ann Curnow QC, for the prosecution, said:

"The 16-year-old mother, who gave birth during the night on the floor of the bedroom she shared with her younger sister, who slept throughout, admitted infanticide. Judge Steel ordered that the girl, from Willesden, northwest London, should not be identified and she was remanded on bail until next month for reports."

The slightly-built girl had repeatedly denied being pregnant when questioned by her mother, saying her stomach was growing because of over-eating. In April she went into labour and gave birth in her bedroom. She cut the umbilical cord and threw the baby, who was crying and moving her limbs, out of the upstairs window. Miss Curnow said:

"Neighbours below had awoken at 3am to hear a sound like a cat crying, then like a baby."

The teenager's mother found blood in the girl's bedroom in the morning and demanded to know whether she had given birth, but the girl strenuously denied it.

Her mother, "hysterical and in panic", took her to hospital where she continued to deny having given birth even after tests proved that she had.

Miss Curnow said: "A doctor at the hospital described the girl as very innocent, upset and scared, and the next day a midwife who spoke to the girl described her as very shocked and detached, with no emotion and removed from everything going on around her."

The girl finally admitted that she had thrown the baby out of the window because she was frightened of being sent back to Jamaica. The court was told that she now lived with an aunt.

Miss Curnow said the mother's former boy friend had been traced and would be appearing in court soon charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with the girl, who was 15 when she became pregnant.

Charges dropped against cricketer

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FORMER Northamptonshire and Pakistani Test cricketer was cleared yesterday of theft and the false imprisonment of a Pakistani dancer after it was claimed that she was too frightened to give evidence against him.

Colin Pitt, for the prosecution, offered no evidence at the Old Bailey against Sarfraz Nawaz, 44, telling the judge that "it is clear pressures have been brought directly and indirectly on the lady" from within the Pakistani community.

Mr Pitt emphasised that he was not saying the pressures had come "in any way" from Mr Nawaz.

"She is now in the position that she is reluctant and unwilling to give evidence in this case," said Mr Pitt. "That may well be for a host of reasons — in particular for her family, particularly if she were to return at some stage to Pakistan, as I understand her intention is."

Judge Grigson ordered that verdicts of not guilty be entered on both charges of theft and false imprisonment. He also ordered that Mr Nawaz have his costs paid out of public funds. Mr Nawaz had denied assaulting and unlaw-

fully imprisoning Azra Rauf, 35, on September 10 last year and stealing money from her.

Mr Pitt said that Miss Rauf had given evidence at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in central London but now was not prepared to stand up in court and give her version of events. He said that a second Pakistani female witness, who was also going to give evidence for the prosecution, was now no longer prepared to come to court.

"She supports the complainant's story to a certain extent. She too is reluctant to come to court," Mr Pitt said. "Having considered the matter and taken instructions, reluctantly but with some degree of understanding, the Crown do not think it is right to put before a jury the evidence of two witnesses who are reluctant."

Singhatullah Kadri, QC, for the defence, said that Mr Nawaz was "ready and willing" to be tried.

The judge said that "it does not seem appropriate for me to make an enquiry into the woman's motives in not carrying the case any further. She is unwilling to give evidence, that is as far as this matter goes."

OED defines grey areas of Majorism

BY PHILIP HOWARD

AS A political philosophy, "Majorism" may be as slippery to define and as dependent on its predecessor for definition as Postmodernism. Nevertheless, the tricky definition is going to be made in black and white rather than grey next month in the New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary: "The political and economic policies of the British Conservative politician John Major (b. 1943), who became prime minister in 1990."

This may be jejune, but it conforms to best lexicographical policy of recording established usage with a respectable shelf-life. Other ephemeral words fell at the last fence. "Squalid" almost made it, but was dropped when BSB merged with Sky, and its distinctive square aerial became obsolete, linguistically as well as televisually.

The Shorter Oxford is the top dictionary for writers in a hurry to know about spelling of words, meanings and

a summary of their history. Its only previous edition, 60 years ago, was merely a flawed abbreviation of the big Oxford in 20 volumes, which had finally appeared in 1928 after 71 years of preparation.

Next month's second edition has taken 13 years to compile and cost £3 million. As a result of the introduction of computer databases and other new technology, this is an independent new dictionary rather than a summary of its big brother. So it defines for the first time the state chattering classes, misplaced among the citations under chatter, colloq. (derog.) the articulate professional people given to free expression of (esp. liberal) opinions on society and culture.

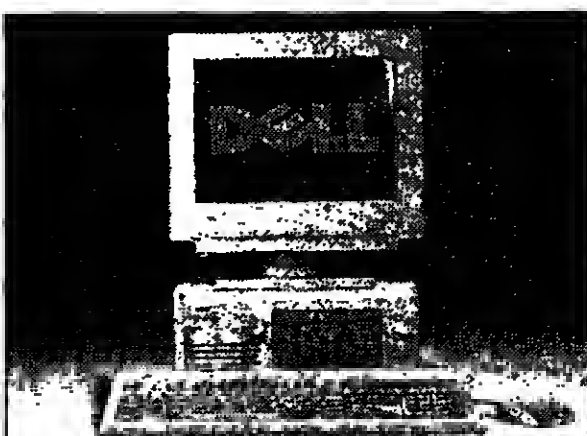
Other previously unrecorded words in the constant snowstorm of new English include "grebo", defined as an urban youth "frequently characterised by long hair and anti-social delivery", and "political correctness", laboriously

defined as, "conformity to a body of liberal or radical opinion, esp. on social matters, in the avoidance of anything, even established vocabulary, that may conceivably be construed as discriminatory or pejorative."

Any new dictionary of this size (97,600 headwords, half a million definitions) is bound to include the meanings of many previously unrecorded words. But for serious wordsmiths, the most exciting novelty is the pre-dating of words, with examples older than those found in the big brother. "Arable", for example, turns out to be late Middle-English, 200 years earlier than the big Oxford's citation from Evelyn's Diaries.

The new Shorter Oxford, edited by Lesley Brown, comes in two volumes at £60, or £70 with a thumb index. However, in the nature of language, which changes faster than publishing schedules, no new dictionary is ever going to be the last word on the English language.

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Ambridge folk are brought to book at last

Now that *The Archers* has been injected with a dose of nineties realism, it helps to know who is doing what and to whom

By Joe Joseph

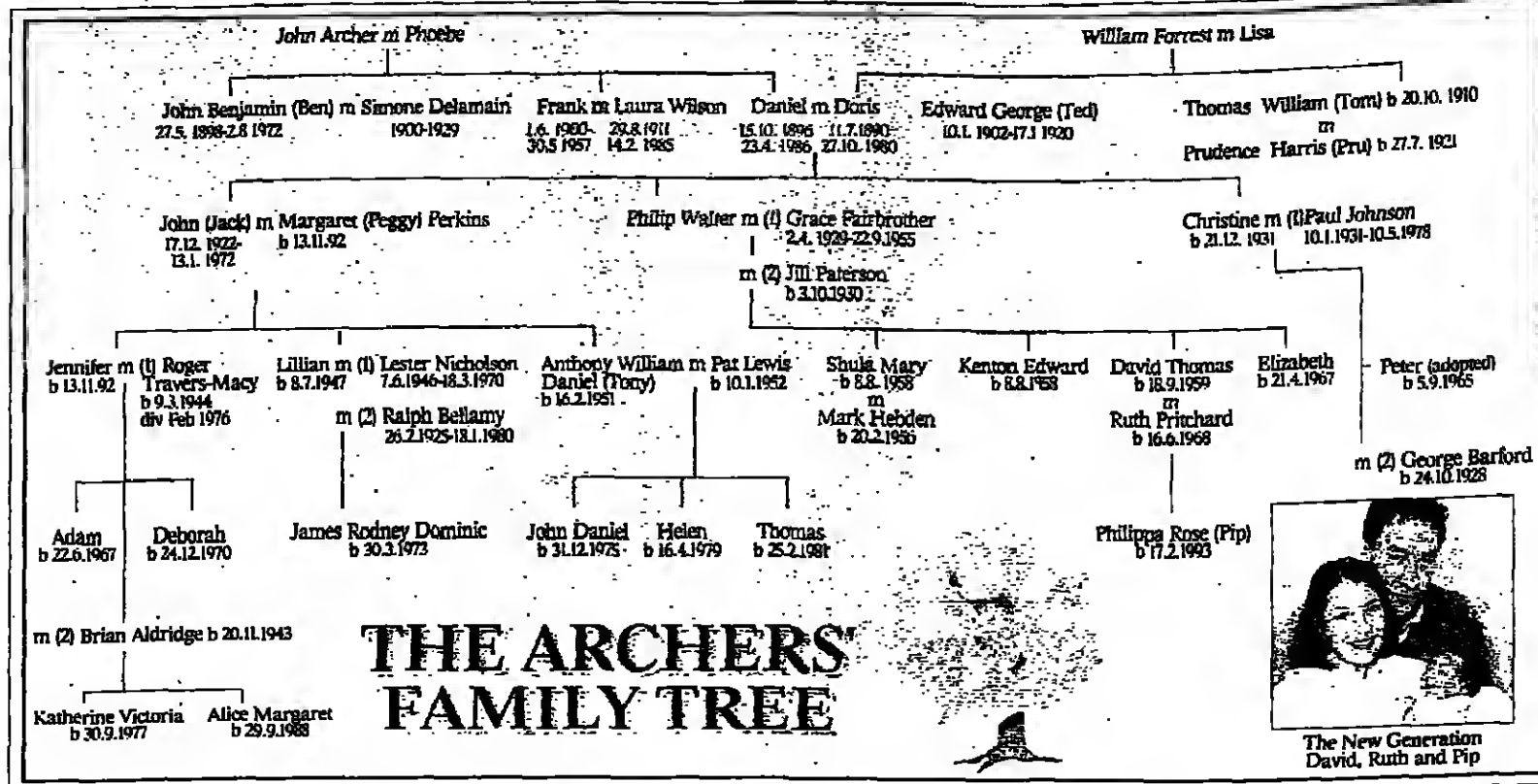
IN ITS latest attempt at imitating real life, *The Archers* now has its own *Who's Who*, providing insights into the people, places, animal herds and even crop acreages that make the series a must for 3.3 million Radio 4 listeners and a mystery to those who think a Grundy is an outdated Polish currency.

Those uninitiated in the comings and goings of the fictional village of Ambridge, or the casual listener who tunes in occasionally while idling in a traffic jam, can now discover who is the true great love of Phil Archer's life (his Middle White sow Molly, daughter of Freda, actually), or why Elizabeth Archer is so chummy with her employer Nigel, who always calls her Lizzie (because they were engaged briefly and not all the embers have died).

"If you've ever moved into a village," Vanessa Whitburn, the editor of the radio series, said, "you'll know how difficult it can be to get to know the people and to get a feel for the place. Starting to listen to *The Archers* can be rather like that. Moving to Ambridge is a tall order and no wonder some people get confused. This guide should help make things clearer."

Also, since Ms Whitburn, a former producer of Channel 4's gritty *Brookside*, has injected some rural realism into Ambridge, a *Who's Who* comes in handy. Now that the characters no longer just milk cows and save premature lambs, but also get involved in armed robbery, hostage-taking, unprecedented swearing, heart attacks, abortions, financial scandals and the seduction of a young lad by an unmarried mother, it helps to know exactly who is doing what to whom.

Staff at the BBC's office at Pebble Mill, Birmingham, which produces the 42-year-old series, are hoping that *Who's Who in Ambridge* will also reverse the tide of telephone calls they receive from anxious listeners trying to find out whether a new character is



THE ARCHERS FAMILY TREE

related to Phil Archer or once fancied Jennifer Aldridge.

Anyone who has wondered why the phrase "Oh no, here comes Lynda Snell" recurs so frequently can at last learn that Lynda, a relative newcomer to Ambridge, is a

passionate campaigner for a greener Ambridge and bullies those who fall ecologically short, failing to realise that the locals think her a sentimental townie who has a precarious grasp of the countryside.

According to the guide, Bri-

an Aldridge, of Home Farm, who once had an affair with Caroline Bone, the posh manager of the Grey Gables hotel, has recovered from epilepsy and is fit to resume his caudish ways with women.

But did Peggy Woolley (for-

merly Archer) have a wartime affair with a former American GI? Was shady wine-bar boss Nelson Gabriel involved in the Borchester mail van robbery? Does Dr Richard Locke, the new GP, fancy Debbie Aldridge or Elizabeth Archer?

Or both? The guide does not tell us. *Who's Who in Ambridge* is available by sending a cheque/postal order for 95p to: *Who's Who in Ambridge*, Room 418, BBC Pebble Mill, Birmingham, B5 7QQ.

Equality watchdog seeks EC decision

By Frances Gibb
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government is to be taken before the European Commission over the failure of Britain's equality laws in more than 10 years to achieve equal pay for women in line with EC laws.

The unprecedented referral is to be made by the country's watchdog on equality, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), which says British legislation is "seriously defective" and in breach of EC law. The EOC points out that in nearly a decade of equality legislation, only 23 successful claims on equal pay have been made.

The EOC's move is a last-resort measure after failing to persuade the government over more than 12 years to make changes to the equal pay laws to ensure they comply with Europe. If the European Commission finds that UK laws are in breach of EC law, the European Commission can take the government to the European Court of Justice in what are called infringement proceedings.

The present procedures for bringing an equal pay claim are a denial of effective access to justice, the EOC says. They remain lengthy and complex, involving 14 different stages, and many points of law are still unclear 10 years after the legislation. There are also long delays in mounting claims, with cases taking on average two and a half years, and some running for more than seven years.

Yesterday the watchdog body said the government "has not accepted what the EOC believes to be essential amendments to the law to achieve equal pay". Nor, it added, had the government accepted legal advice that British laws did not comply with EC law.

Kamlesh Bahl, chairman of the EOC, said: "We have decided to seek a definitive ruling on whether the United Kingdom equality laws breach EC law."

The move coincides with the decision to be announced today by the TUC to make an official complaint to the European Commission over the government's abolition of Wages Councils, which sets the wages for 2.5 million low-paid workers. The abolition, from August 30, is in breach of the government's obligations on equal pay, they say.

Yesterday the EOC said it shared the Trades Union Congress's concern that abolition would worsen the wage gap between women and men, and that it would dismantle one of the most practically effective ways of maintaining equal pay for women.



Bahl: seeking a ruling on UK equality laws

Mother is killed hours into dream holiday

By Paul Wilkinson

A BRITISH family has been struck by tragedy within hours of starting their first foreign holiday. Aileen Trump, 40, was killed and her daughter, a son and one of their cousins are in intensive care after their car was involved in an accident in Orlando, Florida.

Mrs Trump's husband Barry, 41, who was driving, is also in hospital but is not thought to be seriously injured. Mrs Trump, a former mayoress of Blyth Valley, Northumberland, and her family were less than a day into a two-week visit to Disneyworld, when the crash happened on Sunday night.

John Tweddle, a family friend, said: "They had never been on holiday before, just the odd day trip. It had been planned for a year and they were so looking forward to it. It is an absolute tragedy."

"They had been married for 20 years and it was all struggle, struggle, but they had saved up and this was to be their dream holiday. I don't know if they even made it to Disneyworld. I doubt it. I don't think they would have had the time."

Yesterday doctors at the Arnold Palmer Hospital in Orlando said the two children were stable. Catherine Trump, 12, who has head injuries, was heavily sedated. Her brother Sean, 15, was recovering from an emergency operation on his spleen. The children's cousin Gaynor Lee, 13, from Guisborough, Cleveland was also stable.

The family's eldest son, Stephen, 21, did not travel with the group and was being comforted by relatives at home in Blyth yesterday.

Dave Crawford, chief executive of Blyth Valley Council, said Mrs Trump worked tirelessly for charity. "The whole council is in deep shock."

Gulliver described his creator's illness

By Nicholas Watt

JONATHAN Swift, whose writings graphically describe the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, may have been one of the first recorded victims of the illness, according to an expert on dementia.

Dr John Lewis, of North Carolina, says the author of *Gulliver's Travels*, who died in 1745, unwittingly chronicled his own decline through the disease, which kills thousands of people a year.

Writing in the latest issue of *The Lancet*, Dr Lewis says that in the novel, published in 1726, Swift paints a familiar picture of the debilitating effects of the disease. "Anyone acquainted with Alzheimer's will recognise a familiar ring in the words written over two centuries ago."

Swift wrote that the "immortals" have no remembrance of anything but what they learned and observed in their youth and middle age, and even that is imperfect ... In talking

they forget the common appellation of things, and the names of persons, even of those who are their nearest friends and relations.

"Neither are they able ... to hold any conversation (farther than a few general words) with their neighbours ... They were the most mortifying sight I ever beheld."

Swift's friends noticed the decay of his memory ten years before his death. He declined so badly, according to Dr Lewis, that in 1742 he was declared incompetent and his affairs handed to caretakers.

However, Dr Lewis says that Swift managed a measure of revenge on the disease. "He (unwittingly perhaps) created a remarkable and timeless portrait of this terrible illness. Gulliver's horror on learning the truth about the immortals is no different from the feelings of those who come face to face with Alzheimer's disease today."

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THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

سكيزا من الامراض

Inspector studies old workings

Miners who found colleagues dead refuse to enter pit

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

MINERS traumatised by last week's accident at Bilthorpe colliery in which three men died have vowed never to work underground again. As special counselling is being given to 200 men involved in the 14-hour rescue operation, the reopening of the Nottinghamshire colliery coincided with preliminary findings indicating that the pit's roof bolting support system, criticised by some as unsafe, was not to blame for the accident.

Brian Langden, deputy chief inspector of mines, said the rock fall had been so great that he doubted whether any method of roof support would have held firm. He said he would be questioning the presence of an old tunnel close to new excavations as a possible cause of the accident.

that roof bolts, hammered into the ceiling of a tunnel and injected with resin to bind the rock together, should never be used as the sole support.

Mr Langden, who said his investigation would be completed in weeks rather than months, said: "The extent of this collapse of ground was such that it is probable the tunnel would have collapsed had passive supports been used instead of roof bolts."

Political pressure has been mounting over government plans to replace mine safety rules by a voluntary code of conduct. Miners' unions and Labour leaders yesterday threatened a court challenge to government proposals to transfer safety regulation away from pit deputies.

The plans will take effect from October without the need for parliamentary approval. The union said that under the new regulations, incorporated in a statutory instrument which does not require MPs' approval, 70 per cent of safety rules would be contained in non-mandatory codes of conduct which could be ignored by future owners of privatised pits.

would put miners' lives at risk. John Monks, general secretary-elect of the TUC, said: "The accident at Bilthorpe was a potent reminder to all those who thought coal mines were safe places. Anybody who cuts corners and takes chances in the interests of increased productivity, without proper regard to safety, runs grave risks with the lives of people underground."

Frank Dobson, Labour's shadow employment secretary, said Britain's mines had been much safer than those in Germany and America, but the safety record was being jeopardised. "The government plans to sabotage Britain's successful safety system."

The government said yesterday that MPs could press for a debate on the plans within 40 working days of Parliament resuming in October.



Sharon Ellis takes a break yesterday from working out with the boxers at the Rotunda club in Liverpool

Woman set to ring the changes

SHARON Ellis celebrated the ending of 113 years of male domination in amateur boxing coaching yesterday with a workout in the gym.

Miss Ellis, 21, from Litherland, Merseyside, has been helping to coach world-class boxers at the highly rated Rotunda club in Kirkdale, Liverpool, for ten months while fighting for official recognition.

Now she has become the first woman to win the right to take an official coaching examination with the newly formed Amateur Boxing Association of England Ltd.

She began by teaching aerobics at the gym but soon involved herself in all aspects of the work.

"Some of the men used to come in snarling when I started coming here teaching aerobics. At first it was hard but now they are all really nice to train with and I have their respect," she said.

She collected a black eye from a misplaced punch a couple of weeks ago. "My Mum didn't like it at first when I came home with cut hands, but now my family are all supporting me."

Councils pull the plug on windfarms

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is catching up with the United States in wind power, with more turbines expected to be set up in the next seven years than in the hills of California and mountains of North Dakota.

The findings, by the American Wind Energy Association, come amid growing concern over the visual impact of wind machines and their noise pollution.

In Cornwall, site of the first British commercial wind project, councils are starting to block plans amid fears that the skyline could be filled with

spinning propellers. About 58 wind farms — 14 in Cornwall — have secured support under the government's Non Fossil Fuel Obligation, a levy encouraging environmentally sound electricity generation. However, four have been refused and four have been subject to appeals. Six are seeking planning permission, are being built or generating.

The latest battle centres on plans by Eogen for an 11-turbine park at St. Breock, North Cornwall, council, which sanctioned the first commercial project at Delabole in 1990, has rejected the scheme but the company appealed. An environment department inspector's report is expected within days.

A similar move was made recently by Carrick council over plans for a 15-turbine farm at Four Burrows, which was overturned by an environment department inspector. Councilors feared that a landscape of propellers might damage tourism, distract drivers, and the noise upset residents.

Critics of windfarms say the contribution of wind energy to the nation's electricity needs is too small to justify the damage to the countryside. In the United States, almost no new turbines are being installed but in Britain and the rest of Europe subsidies, tax breaks and incentives are leading to a boom in business.

Supporters say that all electricity generation carries an environmental cost but that renewables such as wind are the least damaging. They also point to Denmark, a fifth the size of Britain, which has 3,000 turbines compared with about 400 here.



The first UK windfarm at Delabole, Cornwall

'No such thing' as free child holidays

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

OWNERS Abroad, Britain's second largest tour operator, claimed yesterday that there was no such thing as a free child holiday and many of the discounts offered by package holiday companies were not as great as they claimed.

Dermot Blastland, managing director of the company, which launched its 1994 summer brochure yesterday, said the battle between holiday companies would not produce the savings the public expected.

Owners is competing to win a big slice of the estimated 8.5 million holidays to be sold over the next 12 months. Mr Blastland alleged that Thomson, the

biggest operator, had taken £10 million off the current summer 1993 brochure price for package holidays instead of the £60 million it had claimed.

"Thomson is reducing its prices for next year because it admitted that its holidays were too high," he said. "There is no such thing as a free child place. Someone has to pay if a child goes free because prices are spread across the board."

A spokesman for Thomson said: "We are not going to get involved in mud-slinging, but we have an enormous number of price comparisons showing real savings on next year's family holidays."



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Union campaigns to save urban parks and gardens

By JOHN YOUNG

BRITAIN'S legacy of public parks, gardens and playing fields is threatened by government pressure on local authorities to reduce spending, a trade union said yesterday.

The GMB general union is trying to persuade ministers of the importance of maintaining "vital green lungs" in cities and towns. The union says in a leaflet sent to MPs, local authorities, and environmental and horticultural bodies that many historic parks are in decline, and the great glory of municipal horticulture is often the first victim of town hall cuts.

"Many councils know the value of parks and gardens to their tourist trade," it says. "Others still take pride in local traditions of excellence and see how vital urban green space can be, particularly in the inner city. There has been a welcome increase in urban nature reserves."

"But elsewhere a slow cycle of decline has begun. Flower beds in parks are grassed over. Floral displays in unlikely places, such as roundabouts, are no more. Parks

The "green lungs" left to Britain's cities by Victorian philanthropists are in need of urgent treatment, MPs are being told

lose their full-time keepers, and the grass is cut less frequently. Vandalism is not put right, and in turn attracts further damage. A park then begins to die. People no longer want to visit or feel it is safe to let their children play. Sooner or later, someone suggests that it could be put up for sale or replaced by a leisure centre."

The GMB believes countryside users have official organisations such as the Countryside Commission, and campaigning groups such as the Ramblers' Association, on their side. The Sports Council and other sporting bodies aim to protect playing fields, although they are also under threat. But urban parks have neither a statutory national body nor a campaign group to defend them.

Mick Graham, national secretary of the union's public services section, said councils had no statutory duty to

provide public amenities, so parks, gardens, allotments and sports facilities were an obvious target when they were under pressure to cut spending.

He said the GMB represented council gardeners and parks department workers, but the problem was also an important national issue.

"We are seeing major cut-backs in revenue and staffing, and the use of private contractors who are brought in under compulsory competitive tendering. We will not have the same skilled employees in future, and the tragedy is that our children and grandchildren may not have the same facilities available to them in the 21st century," Mr Graham said.

Park standards were falling all over the country. Maintenance had deteriorated, and flower beds were left unweeded or grassed over. In Battersea park, south London, he

had seen bridges patched up with breeze blocks instead of being properly repaired.

Many public parks are the legacy of Victorian philanthropists to help the urban poor, although in the early days some of them charged admission. England has an estimated 70,000 sports pitches, although many have recently been sold off.

Studies in the United States have suggested a link between crime and social problems and the state of public parks. Mary Turner, the union's section chairman, said yesterday that many people in Britain were scared of using large open spaces because of the lack of security and the growing incidence of rape, muggings and vandalism.

"A generation ago, families without gardens regularly used parks for open air and recreation, but they can't do that any more. There is no way that parents can let their children out on their own and feel confident about their safety."

□ **Grounds for Concern.** Free from GMB Communications, 22 Worpole Road, London SW19 4DD

Professional fishing helps to pay for Porsche

BARRY GREENWOOD



Margaret Owen carrying her half net on her way to catch salmon in the Lune estuary near Lancaster

Woman nets licence for ancient craft

By RONALD FAUX

MARGARET Owen stands chest-deep in the Lune estuary with the ebb tide tugging at her waders, a woman in a man's world. She believes she is the only female in England licensed professionally to catch salmon with a half net.

There may not be many who would wish to follow her example. In all weathers and at any time of the day or night, when the tide is right, she must clamber into her waders and waterproofs and set out from her home at Sunderland Point near Lancaster.

She carries her half net, a pole 18ft 6in long with three vertical prongs holding a net, across a thick mud shore to her lonely station, where she edges the net out towards midstream as the tide ebbs. Tied to her waist is a chair leg, known as a priest, which she uses to kill salmon caught in the net.

Mrs Owen, who is married to a fisherman and has a daughter, was granted her licence by the National Rivers Authority. "It took ten years to get the licence and to prove that I earned a living from fishing," she says. "There was a bit of chauvinism among the local fishermen, who rather thought this wasn't a job for a woman. I think I've proved them wrong."

"Sometimes I stand there for five hours and catch nothing. Last July I had a nineteen pounder in the morning and a twenty-pounder in the afternoon. It's nearly impossible to predict."

She is practising an ancient type of fishing, which puts her right among her prey. "Some-

times they hang into me. They don't seem put off by a pair of human legs standing in their way. Big ones just go thud into the net and stop there, smaller ones fight like little devils. Yesterday I caught a seal." Recently she saw what looked to be a bunch of branches approaching her. It was a deer swimming across the estuary.

Standing for hours in chest-deep water, holding the net against the stream, gives a fresh perspective on life. It is very beautiful, she says, when first light shifts the early mist, the tide whispers by and when Plover Scar lighthouse blinks behind her. Even on a wild night, when the wind blows over the tide, Mrs Owen is likely to be out there with her net. "I've not had a cold for years," she says.

There are dangers, however. "I stepped in a hole in the river bed and lost my balance. Next thing I knew the net had my legs and I was off, floating down the river. The hood of my anorak filled with water and was pulling my head under."

"Another fisherman I was with couldn't swim but he managed to get me out." By then she had drifted half a mile and was being pursued by two lifeboats and a helicopter. "I was very lucky. For a few days I worked out very gingerly from the bank."

This season has not been good, but fishermen rarely admit to a good one and the market for fresh wild salmon helps to keep Mrs Owen and her Porsche, her little indulgence, licensed.

Air crash widow backs Gaddafi

By ANDREW LYCETT

A LONDON woman who is fighting for financial compensation after the death of her husband in an air crash in Libya last year has applauded comments by Colonel Gaddafi in which he blamed United Nations sanctions for causing the disaster.

"I do take Gaddafi's point sympathetically," Felicity Prazak, 38, said last night. Her husband Victor, a quantity surveyor who worked near Benghazi, was one of seven non-Arabs killed in the Libyan crash last December. "Without the sanctions, Vic would have had a safe flight."

The UN sanctions meant Mr Prazak was unable to take an international flight directly from Benghazi to Malta and home for Christmas with his wife and two children, then aged four and three. Instead, he had to fly internally from Benghazi to Tripoli and take a ferry from there to Malta, before flying to London. Sanctions turned the one-day journey home into three days, taking a week off his regular leave, said his wife.

The Libyan leader made his comments in an interview with Scottish Television yesterday. Colonel Gaddafi blamed UN sanctions imposed after the 1988 Lockerbie bombing for causing the crash, which had led to the loss of 157 lives.

The sanctions had prevented the national carrier, Libyan Arab Airlines (LAA), from getting spare parts, he said. They



Gaddafi: blamed UN sanctions for the crash

had also stopped technicians from travelling to Libya to check planes for safety.

Mrs Prazak travelled to Libya in April to visit her husband's grave. She was not allowed to place a plaque on the actual grave but left it in the Roman Catholic church in Tripoli where a memorial service was held.

LAA did not have full international insurance cover, which would have entitled her to £90,000 in compensation. Instead, it only had domestic cover, amounting to £16,500 per passenger. She is appealing to Colonel Gaddafi personally for additional financial support. She says that, with two children, her "situation is desperate".

She has received some help from her husband's employer and has also written to John Major.

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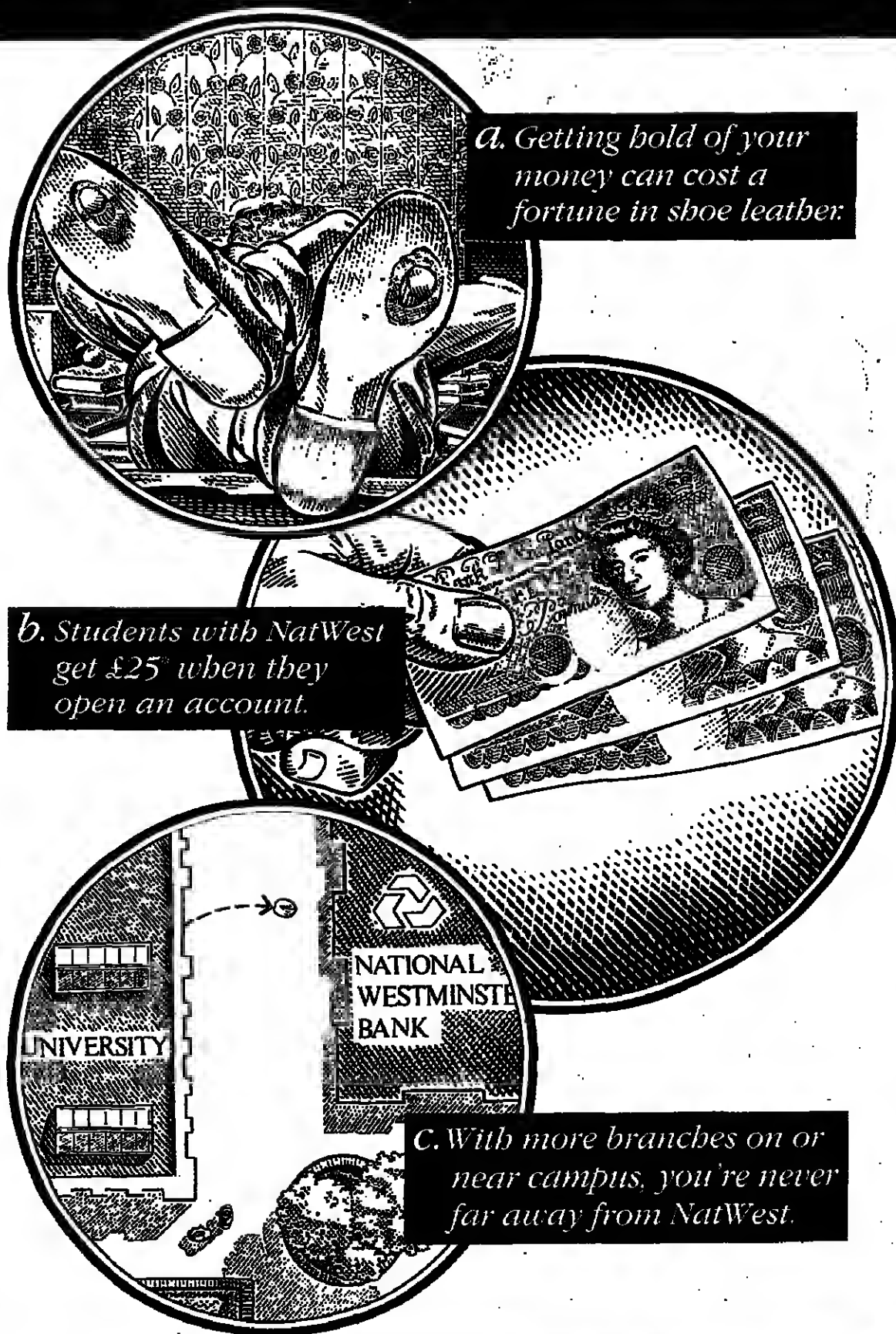
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حکومت المملكة المتحدة

Blunkett accuses Tories of Animal Farm mentality

Livestock tested on NHS scanner

By Bill Frost

The NHS is being turned into a "stockbreeders' paradise", it was claimed last night after the disclosure that a sophisticated scanner intended to test patients for cancer had been used on sheep and pigs.

The mobile unit, based at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital and said to be the only one of its kind in the country, was used to assess the fat and muscle content of the livestock.

David Blunkett, shadow health secretary, expressed anger and amazement that the scanner, which would normally have been hired out to local NHS hospitals, had been used to test sedated rams and pigs for breeding potential. "We are now seeing the farcical reality behind the NHS reforms," he said yesterday.

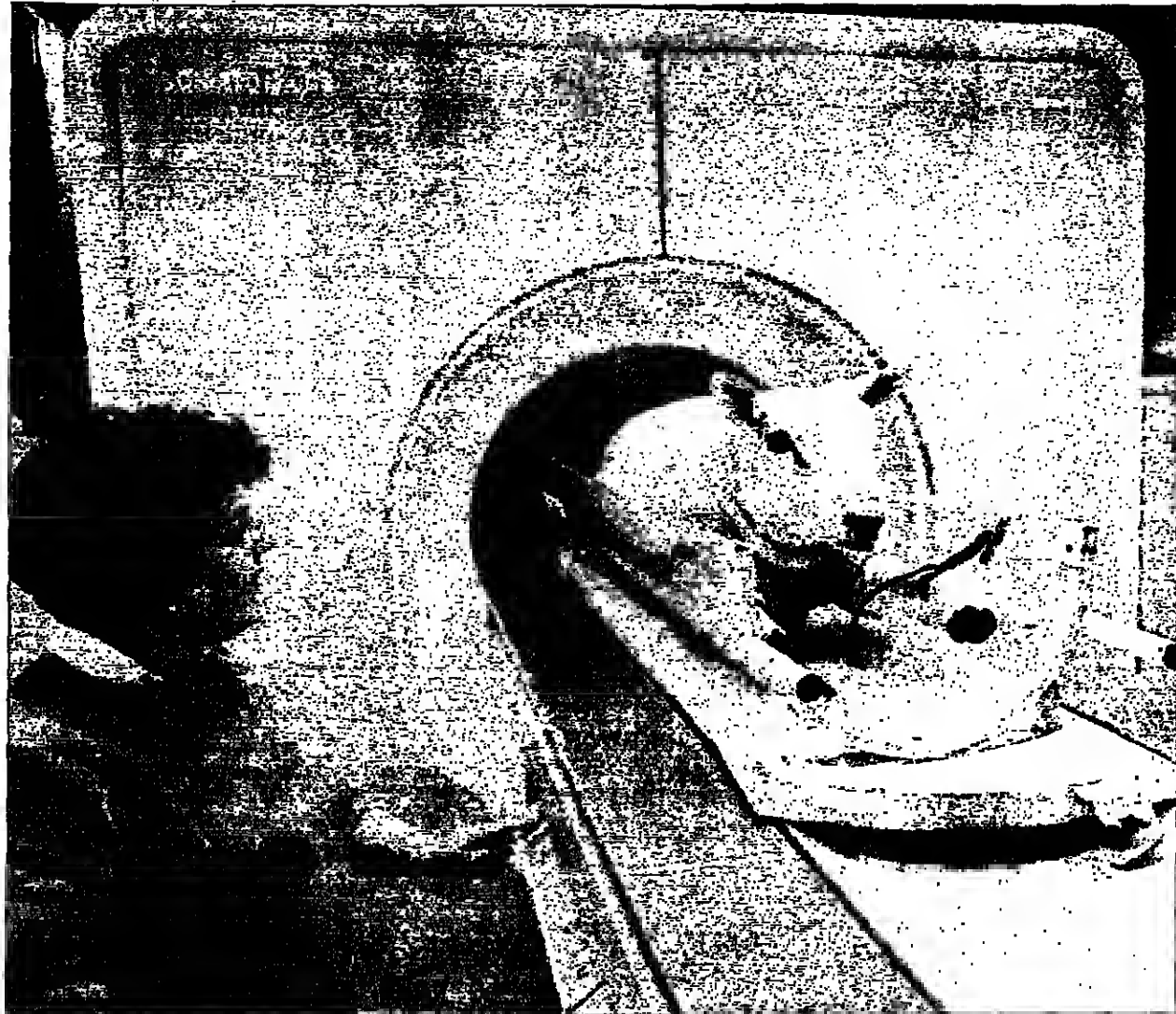
The MP for Sheffield Brightside added: "George Orwell would be very proud of Virginia Bottomley [the health secretary]. She has managed to transform the NHS into a stockbreeders' paradise. Instead of a caring service devoting key public investment to people, we now have 'Animal Farm' in the health service."

Local Labour MPs yesterday joined the clamour for an enquiry. Lynne Jones (Birmingham Selly Oak) said the scanner should be used "to cut waiting lists, not find out which sheep were going to produce the most money".

A qualified radiographer supervised the operation at the centre of the current controversy as 20 sedated rams and a number of pigs were put through the machine. Robert Naylor, chief executive of Heartlands, which is a self-governing trust, said the equipment had been used only once for animals.

"This was done at a time when the scanner would never have been used or needed for patients. We would not drop a patient scanning session to put animals through."

He added: "This was very much a one-off bit of research. It was part of a scientific and genetic research programme under the auspices of the Meat and Livestock Commission for



A ram is put through the scanner, which was used to test fat and muscle content in a research programme

the Scottish Agricultural College in Edinburgh.

"This was a scientific venture, not a commercial one, and was an attempt to improve the standard of various breeds."

A spokeswoman for West Midlands Regional Health Authority said: "If a patient needs a scan, they get one straight away — there are no waiting lists."

She said that machine was hired out by Heartlands, as in this case, as a form of income generation and money raised was ploughed back into patient care. "The hospital is simply trying to ensure that

the equipment is utilised as much as possible."

The hospital said that the tests were on a Sunday. "The scanner is only used on humans during the week."

Mr Blunkett said: "The government claimed that money would follow the patient and that treatment would be made available from whatever source and whatever location to help the individual. No one imagined for a moment that what they were talking about was farm animals rather than those on the one million plus waiting list."

"No wonder appointments for consultations and tests are rising steeply and the government does not keep the facts and figures in this critical area of the NHS. They would probably find that more animals than people are being treated in the modern NHS."

"Mrs Bottomley should not be counting sheep, she should be lying awake at night thinking of a way out of the mess her health service reforms have created."

According to one report, hospitals could ill afford to pay for the mobile scanner. Rates charged by Heartlands were said to be between £1,000 and £1,500 a day.



Blunkett: "Farcical reality of reforms"

NEWS IN BRIEF

PC clung to car for two miles

A woman disqualified from driving drove her car for two miles at about 50mph the wrong way along one street and across a school playing field with a policeman clinging to the windscreen wipers, a court was told.

Jasmin Plunkett, 41, of Thetford, Norfolk, who has eight convictions for driving while disqualified, was jailed for two years at Norwich Crown Court, banned from driving for five years and fined £200.

The court heard that PC Mac Thomas had stopped Plunkett at Holt and jumped on the bonnet as she drove away. He fell off and broke his foot when she braked.

Boy stabbed

Nicholas Maguire, 15, of Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan, suffered a collapsed lung after he was stabbed during an argument with a group of teenagers over a baseball cap at a caravan park in Porthcawl.

Two wounded

James Russell, 29, and his daughter Alanah, 11, were injured by the same bullet while walking near their home in Kirkton, Dumfries and Galloway. A 32-year-old man was released on police bail.

Armed attack

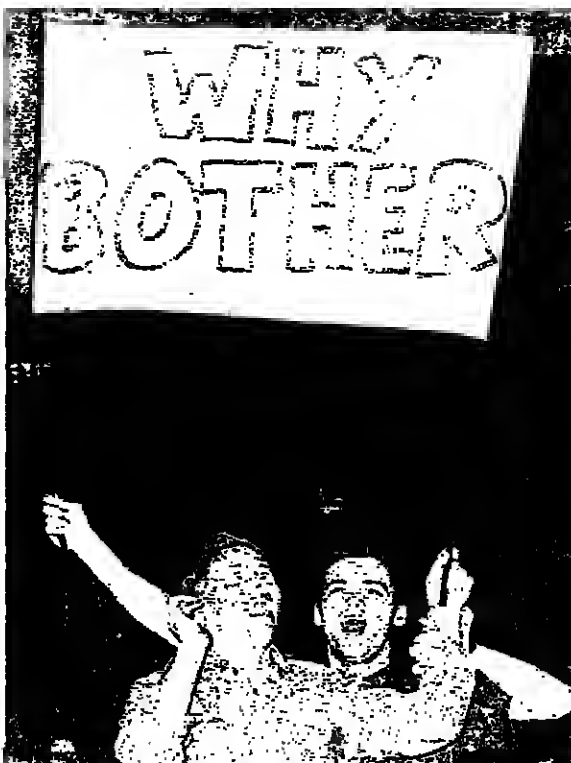
Thieves shot a Post Office security guard as he carried a cash bag from his van into a sub post office in Castle Vale, Birmingham. The condition of the man, who has not been named, is stable.

Bodies found

The bodies of a 28-year-old climber and her dog were recovered from Cader Idris in Snowdonia by an RAF rescue helicopter.

Juror's out

A juror who walked out of Croydon Crown Court because he was tired of waiting to be called to a trial was fined £200. John David Hone, 25, of Thornton Heath, south London, had been there for three days.



The message is clear for one act at Worthing

Antics of audience take the limelight

By A Staff Reporter

HUNDREDS of people were shouting "off, off, off" as a female vocalist struggled to make herself heard. Immediately below her, the staff of a high street record shop hung out their latest sign, on pantaloons suspended on canes: "Sling your hook."

This is the latest phenomena to invade the theatre, exuberant audience participation where the entertainers are almost incidental, not to say totally irrelevant to the spontaneous anarchy of the events going on in the crowd. Even more bemusing is that it should have evolved in Worthing, West Sussex, once synonymous with gentility.

"We must be doing something right," said Sally Anne Lowe, deputy manager of the council-owned Pavilion Theatre. "There's about 600 inside and another 100 who couldn't get in. What other theatre is doing that kind of business on a Monday

night? We've even had ticket louts."

The event is the Star Search talent contest, which attracts acts from the basement end of the entertainment industry with a chance of going forward to a national contest organised by the British Resorts Association. Barbara, a sandwich bar owner, said: "Sometimes we just wave at the performer and shout 'Bye, bye' which means pack up and go. Other people hold newspapers up as though they're reading them to mean the same thing."

Sometimes, playful fights with four-foot rubber hammers erupt and beach balls and balloons are punched across the auditorium.

"That was dreadful," said Victor Biswell, 73, who received an "off, off, off" chant from the audience and the attentions of a boy who kept hitting him with an inflatable axe. "But I got through my songs, didn't I?"

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Tumim warns of high costs in prison work scheme

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

JAILS will have to be converted if inmates are to be given greater opportunities to work, the chief inspector of prisons said yesterday.

Judge Stephen Tumim joined prison governors, staff and penal reform groups in issuing a warning that the costs of providing more employment and training would be enormous.

He supported moves to give inmates more work, as leaving them with few activities could spark disturbances. "The problem is that providing more opportunities costs a lot of money. It is going to cost a lot to get more work in prisons," he said.

One senior Prison Service official said the government had to be careful when seeking business. "We might find ourselves accused of poaching work from law-abiding citizens," he said. The service was trying to win contracts but its primary difficulty was that prisons did not offer long runs of products.

Mailbags are still made for the Post Office, horse blankets for the army, plimsolls for the defence ministry and underwear for British Coal.

Although the government wants prisoners to do work similar to the opportunities available outside prison, there is unlikely to be a

sudden expansion of pilot schemes. The costs, quality of work, and concerns about the public reaction to prisoners doing work that could be available to the unemployed are factors causing officials to move cautiously.

Judge Tumim said there should be more workshops and better training for many of the 45,000 inmates in Britain's 130 jails. "The majority of prisoners are young men who failed at school. They are not violent or interesting. They have failed with their families and what they need is training, education and help with relationships with their family."

Peter Lloyd, prisons minister, said he hoped private contractors could be brought into prisons. He added that work could be provided, "if possible brought in by private manufacturers, contracting with the prison service to get the work done, and then they should pay of course the proper rates for the job". At present, prisoners can earn a maximum of £7 a week.

Prison industries and farms employ 6,000 inmates and last year industries had sales of £30 million and farms £29 million. Eighty-eight per cent of the products are for the prison service, 5 per cent for other government depart-



Principal officer Barry Hicks watches inmates at Dartmoor painting telephone boxes for a charity auction

ments and the rest for the private sector.

Earlier this month, four female prisoners at East Sutton Park prison in Kent started making mozzarella cheese for sale in stores and restaurants. They are paid £3 an hour for a 40-hour week, from which is deducted income tax, national insurance, a contribution for their keep with the rest of the money saved for their release.

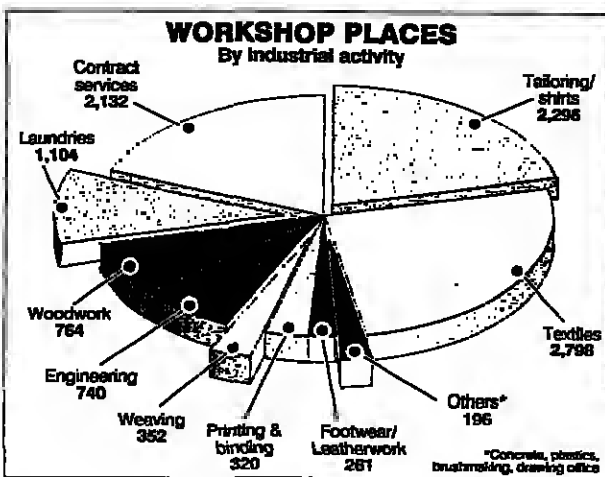
Prisoners at Frankland jail in Durham City and Portland, Dorset, are producing fitted furniture for 200 rooms at Nottingham Trent University while inmates at Chan-

nings Wood jail in Devon make wooden loud-speaker cases for a private firm.

When Strangeways prison in Manchester reopens, prisoners will be able to make wheelchairs for a spinal injuries charity while inmates at Thorn Cross young offenders' institution make braille bingo boards for the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Four inmates at Holloway prison, north London, work in an office at the jail run by Reed Employment, the recruitment agency. They take in secretarial work.

Paul Barker, page 14



Gummer urged to save countryside from quarrying

■ The environment secretary's solution to the problem of over-quarrying for building materials is pure fantasy, the industry says

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

SIX leading conservation bodies have given a warning that the quarrying of sand, gravel and rock for the construction industry is causing unacceptable damage to the countryside. In a letter to John Gummer, the environment secretary, they say that demand for quarried material, particularly for road building, must be reduced.

But mineral extraction companies said restrictions on quarrying from traditional sources would have a serious impact on the rural economy. "What the conservationists are asking for would force up to 40 per cent of smaller companies out of business and do away with many jobs," the Sand and Gravel Association said yesterday.

Ben Plowden, minerals campaigner at the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said: "It is not enough just to change the pattern of supply. Road building and upkeep accounts for 33 per cent of all aggregates (sand, gravel and crushed rock) used. If the government is serious about protecting the countryside, it should reduce its road-building programme, which is forecast to cost £23 billion over the next 20 years."

In a consultation paper issued last January, the environment department proposed a 20 per cent reduction in the amount of aggregates to be made available on new sites up to the year 2011, and also suggested that the stocks of land that councils must set aside for quarrying should be halved from ten years' worth of supplies to five.

The department argued that the squeeze on supply would raise the price of freshly quarried material, so forcing construction firms to make more use of mineral wastes such as china clay sand and colliery and blast furnace slag or recycled demolition rubble. At present, these so-called secondary aggregates account for only 10 per cent of supply.

It was also argued that

curbs on inland quarrying would make it economic for mining companies to invest in a network of new coastal "superquarries", located in remote areas of the Scottish Highlands and Islands, which would send crushed rock south by sea, so easing the demand in England and Wales. Up to 20 suitable sites were identified. The government is expected to complete its plans in October.

Mr Plowden said: "We think the government's proposals are an improvement on existing policy, but a long-term reduction in the amount of minerals coming from England and Wales has to be achieved without simply digging up large areas of Scotland. We also fear that the government may be retreating even from these modest improvements under pressure from the quarry and construction industries."

British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries said the government's road proposals would require the amount of aggregates coming from coastal quarries to rise from less than five million tonnes to more than 100 million tonnes by 2011. Duncan Pollock, the group's planning officer, said: "This supply could only be met by building up to 40 coastal superquarries, half of them in Scotland and half abroad, at a cost of about £70 million each. This is pure fantasy."

In their letter to Mr Gummer, the conservation bodies point out that, at existing production levels, 40 years' supply of rock and 10 years' supply of sand and gravel is already covered by existing sites without any new sites being permitted.

The letter is signed by the Council for the Protection of Rural England, the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales, the National Trust, the Council for British Archaeology, the Royal Society for Nature Conservation and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Treasure finder awaits inquest

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A TREASURE trove inquest will be held next week on the Roman treasure found last year at Hoxne in Suffolk. The inquest, in Lowestoft, Suffolk, will decide whether the tableware and thousands of gold and silver coins were hidden to be recovered later, were some sort of offering, or were simply lost.

If the objects were hidden, and the owner cannot be traced, they are classified as treasure trove and are Crown property; if they were committed to the ground without thought of recovery, as with grave goods or an offering, then they become the property of the finder.

With a find of national importance such as the Hoxne treasure, the British Museum is the

likely final resting-place of the objects whatever the verdict, and arrangements are being made to display them in the museum early next month.

The treasure was found by Eric Lawes last November and excavated by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit, who determined that it had been buried in a wooden chest. Some 200 gold and silver objects and 14,500 coins were recovered, and these have now been conserved and catalogued by British Museum staff.

The dates on the coins show that they were buried some time after AD 411, when the Romans finally withdrew from Britannia, their northernmost province.

Boy sets sail on Atlantic quest

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A BOY who plans to become the youngest person to cross the Atlantic single-handed set off on the first leg of his voyage at the weekend.

Cameron Spangthorpe, 16, of Ardfern, Strathclyde, who has been sailing since he was eight, left Crinan at the start of his 3,000-mile trip, which is expected to take about a year. He should reach Falmouth, his first stop, in a week.

Cameron has been lent a 25ft yacht, *Howlin' Gael*, by

David Raeburn, a naval architect, and has also received navigational and survival equipment worth £9,000 from a number of companies.

Cameron and his family are committed Christians and he says his faith in God will be extremely important to him during the trip. "It was my father who first suggested the idea when I was about 12," he said before setting out. "I've been preparing for this trip since the beginning of last

year but it is only in the last three or four months it has dawned on me that it is really going to happen."

The youngest person to have completed a solo crossing is David Sandeman from Jersey who made the trip 16 years ago when he was 17.

Cameron said at the weekend: "If anyone is going to say I'm crazy for trying this, then I would expect them to come up with real reasons and not just say I'm too young."

Clinton blows hot to music of Ireland

By NICHOLAS WATT

IRISH gospel music has been ringing round the White House after an 81-year-old man from Ulster sent a recording of his work to President Clinton.

With an eye on cultivating his Irish links, Mr Clinton has personally thanked William "Speedy" Moore, of Coleraine, co. Londonderry, for the tape. The president plays along to the recording on his beloved saxophone.

Mr Moore, who plays the saxophone, the banjo and the guitar, sent his cassette tape, called "He Touched Me", to the White House after watching Mr Clinton play the saxophone on television.

"I typed out a nice moving letter to the president and asked an American friend, Margaret Scott, who lives locally, to send the tape," Mr Moore said yesterday.

"We never thought anything big would come out of it, but to Margaret's surprise a lady phoned one afternoon saying she was President Clinton's secretary. Margaret thought the woman was just pulling her leg, but it turned out to be authentic."

"The president spoke to her for 15 minutes. He thanked her for sending the tape and said how much he loved gospel music. The president even said he was rehearsing to it."

"It is unbelievable. To have the most important man in the world as a fan is incredible." Mr Moore, a journalist for 64 years who writes a weekly column for the *Coleraine Chronicle*, said he had ambitions to join forces with the president. "We might get together for a double act sometime. The president did say he wanted to come to Ireland and would like to see us."

Nicknamed "Speedy" for his boyhood feats as a racing cyclist, Mr Moore turned to gospel music 17 years ago. "I'm not a master, but a jack of all trades," he said. "I've played the sax all over Ireland." He has just completed a new album and has written three books.



THE WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

THIS year's Lloyds Bank tournament, London's premier event, is now in full swing. Founded in 1977, I must own up to a vested interest: in 1981 I had the pleasure of winning the event. The next year it was Tony Miles, then Yuri Razuvayev (USSR) and in 1984 John Nunn. The 1988 event also doubled as the Commonwealth Championship and Gary Lane took both titles. The game below is from that event.

White: Keith Arkell
Black: Gary Lane
Lloyds Bank Masters 1988

King's Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6
2 Nf3 g6
3 g3 Bg7
4 Bg2 O-O
5 O-O Nc6
6 Nc3 a6
7 Nf3 Rf8
8 Nf3 b5
9 Nf3 Bb7
10 Nf3 Nc7
11 Nf3 Nc4
12 Nf3 Nc4
13 Nf3 Nc4
14 Nf3 Nc4
15 Nf3 Nc4
16 Nf3 Nc4
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22 Nf3 Nc4
23 Nf3 Nc4
24 Nf3 Nc4
25 Nf3 Nc4
26 Nf3 Nc4
27 Nf3 Nc4
28 Nf3 Nc4
29 Nf3 Nc4
30 Nf3 Nc4

played the following brilliant game in round two.
White: Gary Lane
Black: Michael Adams
Lloyds Bank Masters 1993

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nc6
3 Bb5 a6
4 Bxax6 Rxa6
5 O-O Qc7
6 Qe2 b5
7 Bb3 d5
8 exd5 Nxd5
9 c3 Bf5
10 Nbd2 Re8
11 a3 Bg6
12 Re1 Nf6
13 exd5 Nxd5
14 Qd4 Nc6
15 Qe5 Nf6
16 Qe4 Nf6
17 Qe4 Bc8
18 Ne4 Nc5
19 Bxf7+ Kxf7
20 Qh5+ Kg8
21 Ng5 h6
22 Qf7+ Kh8
23 Qg6 h5
24 Ng5 Qg5
25 Bxg6 Bxg6
26 B4 Ne7
27 Qh5+ Kg8
28 Bx5 Nc5
29 Bc3 Nc5
30 Bc4 Nc5
31 Re4 Bf7
32 Qg4 Be6
33 Qg6 Bf7
34 Qg5 Re6
35 Rg4 Nf7
36 Re1 Nf6
37 h4 Nf6
38 Bc3 Rf5
39 h5 Rf5
40 Rg3 Rf4
41 Kf1 Kf6
42 Kf2 Kf6
43 Kf3 Kf6
44 Kf4 Kf6
45 Kf5 Kf6
46 Kf6 Kf6
47 Kf7 Kf6
48 Kf8 Kf6
49 Kf9 Kf6
50 Kf10 Kf6

White resigns

This year's Lloyds Bank Masters started last Saturday and runs to Monday August 30. The venue is the Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, London W1. Spectators are welcome and play takes place from 1pm to 9pm.

Lane leads

This year Gary Lane has also got off to a flying start. After two rounds of the Lloyds Bank Masters he shares the lead with a 100 per cent score with grandmasters Daniel King, David Norwood and Paul van der Sterren. Britain's boy prodigy Luke McShane has 1½ points, level with Tony Miles and John Nunn. Lane

Winning Move, page 36

THE GREATEST CHESS PLAYERS

WHO was, or is, the greatest chess player? "Philidor," said Larsen in 1907, "because he was so far ahead of his peers." "Morphy," wrote Bobby Fischer in 1964. "In a set match he would beat anyone alive today."

Then we come to Lasker, Capablanca and Alekhine. Lasker's opinion: "I have known many chess players but only one genius, Capablanca." Tartakower, when asked who was the greatest, replied: "If chess is an art, Alekhine; if chess is a science, Capablanca; if chess is a struggle, Lasker." But this was before Fischer, Karpov and Kasparov. "Greatest" implies more than "strongest".

so we chose a number of categories.

Strongest player: Fischer
Greatest natural genius: Capablanca
Greatest practical player: Lasker
Greatest tournament players: Lasker and Karpov
Greatest match players: Steinitz and Fischer
Greatest positional player: Capablanca
Greatest strategist: Botvinnik
Greatest attacking players: Alekhine, Tal and Kasparov
Extracted from *The Even More Complete Chess Addict* by Mike Fox and Richard James (Faber & Faber, £10.99)

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Croats seek slice of aid as UN trucks are blocked

Croats are halting aid to the Mostar Muslims. They are likely to continue unless their own starving people are also helped

By Tom Rhodes

BOSNIAN Croats continued last night to thwart United Nations attempts to get a convoy bearing urgent supplies into the Muslim sector of Mostar, denying 55,000 residents food and ignoring calls by the international community to end the siege.

A United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees official said that the price of getting aid through to the Muslims may be to give an equal amount to the Croat-held part of the city, which also requires help.

The UN was hoping to deliver 130 tonnes of supplies to Mostar in southwest Bosnia after an advance convoy on Sunday managed to deliver some supplies to a makeshift hospital in the Muslim quarter where doctors are struggling to treat patients without anaesthetic, electricity or running water.

Officials were holding fresh negotiations yesterday with the Bosnian Croat forces, the HVO, who control access routes into Mostar's Muslim sector, but reported little progress. "We very much hope that Wednesday will be the day that the HVO finally decides they are no longer going to be bloody-minded and they will allow us to take a convoy through," said Lyndall Sachs, spokeswoman for the UN agency. She added that, if the price of delivering aid to the Muslims on the east bank was to contribute an equal amount to the Croat sector of the city, "it's a price we are prepared to pay".

Sally Becker, a British aid worker from Brighton, said by telephone from Mostar that she hoped to negotiate with Croats today for the release of Duce Azem, 3, suffering from a critical heart condition. "They have said they will allow me in to bring the boy out, but whether this will be part of any UN operation remains unknown," she said.

The Bosnian Croats, she said, are increasingly concerned about pockets of Croat-held territory in central Bosnia where they claim their people are suffering equally at the hands of Muslims. She felt it unlikely that they would be prepared to offer widespread assistance to the Muslims of Mostar until Croats in places such as Nova Bila, near Vitez, received help.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, yesterday urged President Tudjman of Croatia to help lift the siege of Mostar. Herr Kinkel said in Bonn that he had sent Dr Tudjman an urgent message, asking him to do "everything, really everything" to persuade Bosnian Croats to allow UN aid convoys through.

France said yesterday that it was viewing favourably a call from international mediators to the European Community to administer Mostar as part of the recently negotiated Geneva peace accord.

In Sarajevo, President Izetbegovic of Bosnia appealed to the UN Security Council for help in getting aid to the Muslims. In a letter to the UN, he described the Mostar siege as a "catastrophe", adding that Croat forces had conducted an "ethnic cleansing" campaign there. He urged that the city be declared a UN "safe area" similar to Sarajevo.



Kinkel asked Tudjman to lift Mostar siege

Peacekeepers facing profiteer enquiry

FROM REUTERS IN SARAJEVO

THE United Nations has ordered a new investigation into allegations that peacekeeping troops in Sarajevo are more deeply involved in black marketeering than had been suspected, a UN official said yesterday.

So far, 13 Ukrainian peacekeepers have been sent home for offences connected with war profiteering.

General Francis Briquemont, commander of UN troops in Bosnia, had called in a UN civilian police team to investigate allegations made by local people and journalists. Lieutenant Colonel Tricia Purves, for the UN Protection Force, said the team would arrive this week.

She gave no details of the latest allegations, but the team's arrival was announced after a Ukrainian peacekeeper was sent home last week after being implicated in a scheme to sell cigarettes on the black market.

There are immense opportunities for black market profits in the besieged Bosnian capital, where a carton of cigarettes can fetch as much as DM120 (about £46) on the street.

"Our stance still is that any Unprofor involvement in any form of black marketeering, however minor, is wrong and will be stamped upon very definitely indeed," Colonel Purves said.

Washington: A State Department official who specialises in Eastern Europe resigned yesterday, saying he could no longer accept American support for what he called genocide and aggression in Bosnia. Stephen Walker, 30, is the fourth official to quit in protest against the Clinton administration's approach to the conflict in the former Yugoslav republic.

The administration's policy on Bosnia has stirred dissent within the State Department. Memorandums have been sent to Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, seeking a more aggressive position on the Bosnian Serbs and against "ethnic cleansing." (AP)

Airlift families call for military action

By Richard Duce

PARENTS of Bosnian children evacuated to Britain in an emergency airlift say the world should have acted sooner to help them. At the same time they pleaded for intervention to stop the fighting in their country.

Thousands of children in Bosnia face death unless the international community agrees to use force to end the conflict, a press conference organised by the Bosnia-Herzegovina Information Centre was told in London yesterday.

Zehra Kalamujic, 25, whose eight-month-old son Eldar is in King's College Hospital, London, with a liver condition, told reporters: "I thank the Red Cross, the United Nations and the British government for helping me see my child saved and for making this evacuation possible, but believe me, there are thousands more children left whose mothers are crying now."

"It is very hard for a mother to see her child die. I beg all of you who have any means to do anything you can to enable these mothers to get their children out. Every day is harder there, and every day it is getting more and more impossible," she added that military intervention was "the only hope for us".

Suada Bogdanic, whose son Denis, eight, is in stable condition after undergoing open-heart surgery at Guy's Hospital in London, said: "I think that is the only solution left. After a year and a half of war all our resources have been exhausted. There is no hope. The negotiations go nowhere."

Hiba Causevic, the wife of one of the soldiers airlifted in last week's Operation Irma evacuation, named for Irma Hadzimiratovic, the child who inspired the mission, defended the decision to fly out combatants among the wounded. She said her husband Nesad had been left paralysed for nine months by injuries sustained in the fighting. "He needed to be evacuated just as much as the children," she insisted.



Zehra Kalamujic, with her son Kenan, four, is overcome with emotion as she thanks organisers at yesterday's press conference in London

The evacuees' parents issued a joint statement appealing to the British government to help ease the suffering in other besieged Bosnian towns and cities, including Mostar, where thousands of Muslims face death from starvation.

Lord Avebury, chairman of all-party parliamentary human rights group, backed their statement, saying: "We are left with no alternative but to use military force."

There's a danger that by concentrating on a few cases where a single life may be saved, we shall assuage our consciences and consign tens of thousands to a lingering death. I believe we are on the brink of giving another green light to armed bullies and this is undermining the most important principle of the UN Charter."

None of the 21 people, airlifted for treatment in Britain from Sarajevo with their families nine days ago have yet left hospital. They have all been granted emergency six-month visas to stay in Britain and yesterday the Home Office said that none would be returned to Bosnia against their will. A spokesman said: "They have been admitted outside the usual immigration rules. We will not be sending anyone back to a war zone."

MPs protest: A Conservative and a Labour MP yesterday wrote to the prime minister protesting that the international humanitarian relief programme was deliberately discriminating against children in Serbia. Labour's Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby) and Tory Harold Ellenson (Blackpool, North) urged John Major to intervene to save Serbian civilians from "a wholly avoidable humanitarian catastrophe which would disgrace the international community".

Talk of a coffee-cup state threatens Tuzla harmony

FROM TIM JUDAH IN TUZLA

Early in the war Bosnian forces drove the Bosnian Serb army from the gates of town and now only the occasional shell hits Tuzla. Food is prohibitively expensive, but it is available.

The restaurants and cafes are open and Serbs and Croats still fight side by side with Muslims in this bit of the army that still believes in the Bosnia dream. The cancer of the Croat-Muslim war has not spread here and officials say that Tuzla will resist it.

Undeclared, unbowed and not having tasted the worst privations of war, Tuzla is standing out against the Filidjan state. Even those who feel it should be accepted say that it can only be a tactical move. "The future is on our side," said Osman Hukic, a businessman. "It's only half time."

There is another reason why most people in Tuzla are against accepting division. Of the regional population of about 600,000, one-third are refugees from the lost towns and razed villages of eastern Bosnia. The refugees rail against the partition plan which would prevent most of them from returning to their homes.

Of conservative peasant stock, the refugees wander the streets, the women dressed in the traditional baggy trousers of the Muslim villages. "When I go out I don't recognise anyone anymore," said Xenia, a 23-year-old medical student. "And when I wear a miniskirt they stare at me and swear and shout that I should be ashamed of myself."

Xenia fears that if the present plan is accepted the cosmopolitan atmosphere of Tuzla will be lost. It will, she says, be the *Jamahirija*: an unwanted Muslim state will be created in which there will be no future for those Serbs, Croats and children of mixed marriages who have stayed behind, and for those urban Muslims who saw themselves as Europeans first, Bosnian second and last as Muslims.

She and many others insist that the Bosnian government continue to resist partition, or any settlement that would prevent the return of the refugees.

The posters proclaim that the Bosnian struggle is the fight against evil. But Tuzla is living on borrowed time. In a quiet aside a senior official, a Croat, says that he is pessimistic about the chances of Croat-Muslim harmony surviving there.

In the agonised debate that will take place this week the voice of the army must be heard. Tuzla has survived but Andjelko Makar, a Croat, the local chief of staff is beating no war drums. "Any solution is better than continuing the war, even the division of Bosnia into three," he says gloomily. But that would mean the creation of a Muslim state and the end of everything he had fought for. "You are asking very difficult questions," said an aide. "The truth is no one knows what to do."

Azerbaijanis pull out of siege town

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AZERBAIJANI troops have pulled out of a key town near the Iranian border in another victory for Armenian forces from the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Spokesmen for both the Azerbaijan defence ministry and the Karabakh administration said yesterday that the defenders withdrew overnight from Fizuli, a town of 40,000 people under siege for days by Armenians occupying the hills on three sides.

The latest victory brought the Armenians closer to cutting off the entire southwestern corner of Azerbaijan, home to some 200,000 people, and risked angering neighbouring Iran.

The Iranian border is just 15 miles from Fizuli and the fighting has sent tens of thousands of refugees fleeing towards it. Iran denounced the Armenian offensive last week, saying it believed in the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.

Fizuli is the third big town just outside Nagorno-Karabakh seized by the Armenians in recent weeks, after Agdam to the east and Ceybrayil further south. The Azerbaijanis say they recaptured Ceybrayil at the weekend.

Demonstrators have meanwhile ousted a pro-Iranian warlord from the capital of his self-proclaimed "republic" in southern Azerbaijan.

Hospitals were reported to be inundated with casualties from the fighting between supporters and opponents of Ali Karimov, a retired army colonel who had declared the Talysh-Mugan Autonomous Republic near the border with Iran. The acting president, Geidar Aliev, said on nationwide television that Mr Gumbatov had fled Lenkoran, a city of 126,000 on the Caspian Sea about 130 miles south of Baku, the capital. Mr Gumbatov's whereabouts were unknown.

and there was speculation that he may have taken refuge in Iran.

An estimated 10,000 protesters had gathered over the weekend outside Mr Gumbatov's headquarters in Lenkoran to demand his removal. Mr Aliev said Mr Gumbatov's gunmen opened fire on the crowd, which stormed the building and forced him to flee for his life.

The Azerbaijani Popular Front, a coalition of political parties that organized the protest, said there were many casualties. But neither the Popular Front nor officials in Baku gave a specific death toll. Mr Gumbatov commanded an estimated 3,000 men and 80 armoured vehicles.

Lithuania increases pressure on Moscow

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

LITHUANIA has announced that it may seek help from outside to increase pressure on Russian troops to leave the country. The move came as relations between Moscow and Vilnius worsened in the run-up to next week's deadline for the withdrawal.

President Brazauskas cancelled a meeting with President Yeltsin in Moscow, describing it as "inappropriate" and called for an end to wrangles over the withdrawal, saying: "Russia is not fulfilling its international obligations on the withdrawal and it must take all the responsibility."

He went on: "I think that we should invite a third party, whether it is another country or a foreign organisation, to help us solve this problem." He was responding to a sharply worded Russian statement which said that the evacuation of the remaining 2,500 troops would go ahead "at a time convenient to the Russian Federation". The statement made clear that Lithuania would have no say in the timing and said that Moscow would react "swiftly, practically and decisively" if its troops suffered any intimidation.

However, it is difficult to see what punitive action Moscow could invoke, since 28,000 troops have left Lithuania. Those remaining are mostly technical specialists, auxiliary staff and officers. The row, as so often in relations between Moscow and Vilnius seems to be symbolic more than practical, with Mr Brazauskas's threat to invoke outside help meant to put pressure on Moscow rather than being a serious suggestion.

The operation is being impeded by domestic pressures on both Mr Yeltsin and Mr Brazauskas. The Russian president perceives foreign policy towards the former Soviet states as one of the most fertile areas in which parliamentary conservatives can gather support against him, while Mr Brazauskas is anxious not to be accused of pandering to Moscow and keen to show that his "realistic-moderate" approach to relations with Russia can bear fruit.

Fact agreed: Mr Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, agreed at a meeting in Moscow yesterday to sign a wide-ranging co-operation pact between their two countries. (AFP)



King's heart is given a quiet reburial

FROM REUTERS IN SOFIA

A HEART unearthed in a Bulgarian garden two years ago and labelled as that of King Boris was taken for reburial yesterday in a move designed to avoid political tension.

The heart, preserved in a glass jar in the central bank in Sofia, had been expected to be interred on Saturday at the Rila monastery, in southern Bulgaria, in the presence of Boris's widow, Iolana, due to return to her homeland tomorrow for the first time since 1946. But yesterday it was taken there by the committee overseeing the search for the remains. The secret police destroyed his grave in 1954.

Tolerance for Serbs wanes in a Croatian haven of peace

In the fourth of five articles on the ethnic minorities of eastern Europe, Adam LeBar reports from the village of Srpski Moravice, northeast Croatia



here, a couple of hours' drive from Italy, Croats are traditionally more tolerant than in Dalmatia or Herzegovina. But the war has left a legacy of fear, say local Serbs. Many Serbs at the railway yard have lost their jobs, others have left the village. Young Serbs say they rarely leave their local area, because Croatian police harass them when they travel.

In theory the 200,000 or so Serbs in Croatia (excluding Serb-occupied Krajina) already have the same rights as their Croat neighbours, guaranteed by Croatia's constitution. But the day-to-day reality is different, say Serb activists and politicians, with Serbs being expelled from their flats, losing their jobs and being harassed and threatened.

In the nearby frontline town of Ogulin, sporadically shelled by Serbs in Krajina, tension is very high. Ethnic

Serbs there say they are subject to arbitrary arrest and accusations of spying by Croat police and army officers.

Croatia's Helsinki Watch committee has documented dozens of ethnic Serb families forced from their flats, often at gunpoint. About 10 per cent

of Croatia's ethnic Serbs have been refused or are still waiting for citizenship, say Serb politicians, and now live in a Kafkaesque limbo, denied passports, pensions and work permits.

"Croatia has one of the most democratic constitutions in Europe, but it is not implemented," said Milan Djukic, leader of the Serbian People's Party, one of 13 ethnic Serb MPs and a vice-president of the Croatian parliament. "Citizenship is the key and we want the same rights at Croats here: housing, work and education."

But as long as their compatriots continue daily to shell Croatia's Dalmatian coast, ethnic Serbs' loyalty to Croatia will always be questioned. Like Croats still living in Serbia, Croatia's Serb minority is the historical footslog of the Yugoslav war, stranded on the wrong side of the front lines.

"The Serbs in Croatia are caught between a hammer and an anvil," said Milorad Pupovac, of the Zagreb-based Serbian Democratic Forum. "Both sides have high expectations of their loyalty. Many Serbs have changed their names because people could recognise their ethnic identity. Members of the SDF have been publicly vilified and accused of slandering Croatia. We recognise this state and want to help stabilise it, but we were condemned as untrustworthy and worse than the Serbs in Krajina."

**FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT
IN COPENHAGEN**

The U 534 was sunk by a British Liberator bomber on May 3, 1945, in one of the last actions of the war. The submarine had earlier slipped out of Kiel in an attempt to escape from the advancing allied forces in the confused last days of hostilities in Europe. The U 534, an IX C 40

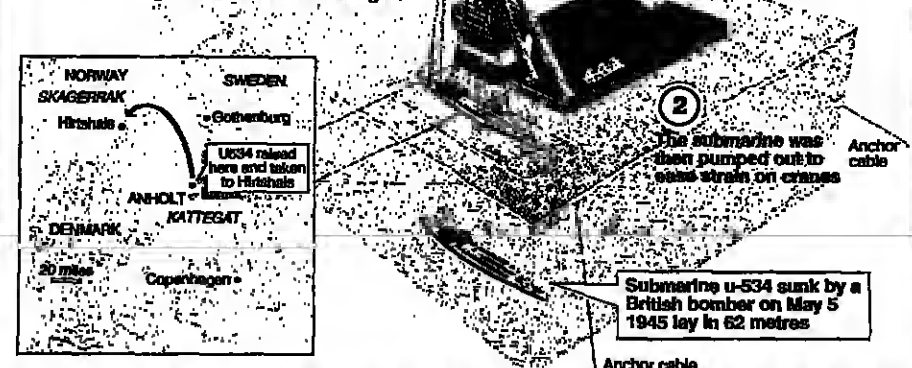
Four veteran German survivors of the U534's last voyage attending the lifting in Denmark have expressed serious scepticism about the possibility of finding any gold, valuable treasure or bodies on board. Also on the scene of the lifting are three Australians and a Briton, members of the crew of the Scottish-based *Liberator*, one

He added that the boat was in "fantastic shape, much better than we ever could have expected". He said the vessel would be transported within a week by barge to the Danish North Sea port of Hirtshals in north Jutland, where a team of conservation experts would begin the long task of registering its contents. The U-boat is eventually to be put on permanent exhibition in a submarine museum in Denmark.



A giant floating crane, top, bringing the U 534 to the surface yesterday. The lower photograph of the hatchway, taken last Friday on the seabed where the boat has lain since being depth-charged by an RAF Liberator in May 1945, testifies to its remarkably good condition

3 U-534 was then be lifted onto a barge where ammunition still on board was removed and the wreck further investigated.



FOR
STAYS
UNTIL
SEPT.

Two cheers for Britain's milky monopoly

So, farewell then, Milk Marketing Board. The Queen has now given her assent to your abolition by statute, and soon you will be no more.

Should we weep, or should we cheer? If you were a pantomime cow, we'd all hiss you. Your front half is a monopoly (loud hiss for controlling the entire market supply), your hindquarters a monopsony (even louder hiss for being the sole buyer).

And yet... What's this they're saying about how your demise will mean the death of the doorstep pinta and that milk and cheese will cost us more? And that we shall find ourselves in the same boat as many consumers on the Continent who have to drink that filthy UHT stuff because fresh milk is rarely available? And what's this about luscious British milk having some of its cream forcibly removed in order to be "standardised" down to the level produced by the average Euro-cow on its inferior Euro-grass?

Do I detect the presence on stage of that old villain, the Beast of Brussels? Indeed I do, and for that reason, I can muster only two cheers for the manner in which the Milk Monopoly-Monopsony Board is being dismantled. Farmers, consumers, dairy companies, processors and retailers would all cheer together if only it were being dismantled into a free market. Thanks to Brussels, it is not.

Britain has an artificial milk shortage because our milk quota allows us to produce only 85 per cent of demand. Yet milk from Britain and Denmark is regarded as the champagne of Euro-milk, partly because of our grass, and partly because the 60-year reign of the Milk Marketing Board has brought us the highest standards of quality-control, hygiene and distribution.

However, whether consumers choose to give their friendly franchisee milkman a living, or whether they prefer to lug cartons from the store has little to do with the MMB or its successor, Milk Marque.

The same applies to UHT milk. Brussels expected British dairy farmers to follow the

continental model and form co-operatives with manufacturers, rather than with other farmers. Such an arrangement does tend to favour long-life products. The British, however, have a tradition of liking their milk fresh.

Anyway, British dairy farmers are not choosing the continental model. When the Dairy Trade Federation, the dairies' and creameries' organisation, sent out a questionnaire, virtually all who replied said they would join Milk Marque, being set up by the MMB to function as much like its old self as possible.

The MMB was a highly successful co-operative that managed a £2.4 billion industry while retaining, on the whole, its popularity with producers and consumers alike.

Britain expanded production on entering the EC, only to be forced to put on the brakes when quotas began in 1984. The board realised that its sell-by date was approaching, and so had plenty of time to get itself in shape for privatisation.

Privatisation is happening on its own terms, precise details of which will not be published until next month. We know, though, that Dairy Crest (which bought a quarter of Britain's liquid milk) will be leased to the profit of its former shareholders, and that MMB headquarters is rapidly shedding staff.

We trust that the board's central testing equipment and staff will be kept separate as a consumer-protection measure. And we can only hope that the private monopoly emerging to replace the statutory one will be kept in line by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Everything in the milking parlour could be lovely if only the market were free. When the MMB's demise was announced, lower prices and more milk for home-produced cheeses were promised by the EC. How can that be, when Brussels is creating a shortage? And as for "standardised" milk, words fail me. Consumers unite: when you see the word "standardised" on a carton, dash it to the floor and hiss loudly.



MARGOT NORMAN

Fred Waitzkin had a private reason for asking Kasparov how hard a talented youngster should be pushed

In October 1989, I attended a party for Kasparov in the apartment, in upper east side New York, of Olga Capablanca, the widow of the former world champion, José Raúl Capablanca. This unusual place was crisscrossed with chess players and patrons of the game who hoped for a handshake and a word with the present champion.

Kasparov, who earlier in the evening had easily beaten the 15-year-old prodigy Gata Kamsky in an exhibition, spoke earnestly to Mrs Capablanca. She was nearly 90 and sported red lipstick and a faded flowing gown, worn to wonderful parties long ago. Doubtless, they exchanged words about Capablanca. Olga sometimes said, coquettishly, that buried in her papers she kept a masterpiece that had never been published, a private game played in the 1930s between her husband and a top grandmaster of that time: a Rembrandt hidden in her closet.

Like Garry, Capablanca had been a prodigy, known for his uncanny intuitive play and lightning-fast vision of the board. There were other similarities, too. Capablanca had been a moody man and, according to his wife, had a talent not only for seeing deeply into a chess position, but also for correctly predicting events in the future. Kasparov prided himself on the ability to predict political developments.

They talked for quite a while. Mrs Capablanca held Kasparov's hand, and they seemed to be measuring one another, the champion perhaps looking for intimations of his future, the lady for a fresh scent of the past. I knew that she would tell Kasparov about the afternoon almost 60 years before when she had berated another world champion, Alexander Alekhine, Kasparov's favourite player, for refusing to give her frustrated husband a rematch after taking the championship from him ten years before. I wondered if the world champion would find her story quaint or disturbing.

Kasparov had been in New York for several days before the exhibition and party. I had hoped to interview him, but each time I had called his manager, Andrew Page,



Garry Kasparov with his wife Maria: "I have regrets. But when I was very young I knew that chess would be my profession."

at the Regency Hotel, he had put me off. I approached him at the party and asked for an hour in the world champion's schedule. Page's eyelids drooped, weary of journalists asking him for Kasparov interviews. "They all think that they are so bright, that their point of view is bold and sparkling, but they all ask the same boring questions," he told me some time later, in his English drawl.

He explained that it would be impossible to talk to Garry during this trip. The champion was much too tired, and tomorrow they would be flying off to Europe. His demeanour reflected the weariness of living the high life, too many five-course meals, too many Concorde flights sipping champagne.

Oxford-educated, suave, handsome and eloquent, Andrew Page at that moment came across as slick, smart and unreflective. Over time, though, I learnt that he was thoughtful and often stopped in his tracks by self-doubt. Whereas Kasparov is set in his points of view like granite, Page is buffeted by his own keen sense of irony — indeed, he sometimes appears amused by his own whimsicality. Perhaps that

is what makes their close relationship viable.

Just when I was thinking that there was someone who controlled a piece of greatness and wasn't going to dole it out, Page's musical voice stopped me in my tracks. "Why don't you have a word or two with him now, while he is standing around?" At that moment, Kasparov had finished with his conversation with Olga Capablanca and was approaching us, looking haggard at the end of his long day, signalling Page that he was ready to leave.

It was difficult for me to introduce myself. Where to begin after so many years of thinking about chess world champions, and wondering particularly what Garry Kasparov might have to say about Bobby Fischer and whether he regretted having devoted his own childhood to the game — questions that were at the centre of my life. But mainly, I felt afraid of him.

"Do you recall that two years ago you had a simultaneous exhibition in the South Bronx?" A clumsy beginning. Of course he remem-

bered: he remembered everything. Kasparov tensed with impatience or perhaps with the anticipation of another person he didn't know asking for something: an autograph, an interview, a chunk of his time for a worthy cause. "My son was the 11-year-old who drew against you."

"Your son is Josh?" he said, suddenly interested. "You should have come right over." I was dumbstruck. How could he have recalled my son's name from a 20-second conversation and a handshake two years before?

We left the party together and spoke for perhaps 15 minutes. What struck me most during our first meeting was the powerful draw of his concentration. For the most part, I asked him about Kamsky, the 15-year-old defector from the Soviet Union whom he had beaten in two games a few hours before. Kamsky's life was entirely dominated by his father's dream for him to become world chess champion. This remarkably gifted teenager was not allowed to go to school, so that he could study chess 12 hours a day. His progress had been stunning.

I asked: "Does a father have a right to ask his young son to study all the time, to give his childhood to chess?"

"It is a kind of risk," he said. "Later you regret the lost childhood. I have regrets. But when I was very young I knew that chess would be my profession. I felt that there was no choice and my mother said okay. I needed chess like a drug."

Kasparov's face was flushed with emotion. "You must ask your kid," he said, wiping aside the pretence that my primary interest was journalistic, a story I was writing about this other boy. "It's up to Josh. If he feels very strongly about it, he will do it. For some, chess is stronger than the sense of childhood."

● An extract from *Mortal Games, The Turbulent Genius of Garry Kasparov*, by Fred Waitzkin, Simon & Schuster, £16.99. © 1993 Fred Waitzkin.

● The Times World Chess Championship, between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short, begins at the Savoy Theatre, London, on September 7. Tickets are available from First Call (071-497 9977).

"The Natural Cure to Baldness"

This self help manual "will show you how to prevent hereditary baldness. You can stop hair loss and promote natural hair growth by following the simple step by step instructions. Receding hair can be arrested, thinning hair will grow thicker. This self treatment works without herbs, spray lotions etc. I am not promising the shiny bald patches will grow back. Left untreated, hair loss can become permanent. Best results will be gained by those with visible signs of hair.

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With massive advertising costs we have to charge £19.99 including P&P. But you can use the self treatment for the rest of your life and I guarantee it will not cost you another penny. This is very competitive compared with other remedies which cost £10-£30 for just one month's supply, running into hundreds, even thousands of pounds.

This manual explains what causes hair loss and proves how this natural cure works. If you are not the reading type chapter 12 shows you exactly how to improve your hair growth.

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All those terrible things you may have heard are not true in our case, I'll prove it if you send in the coupon now. If you have never bought anything by mail before, don't worry, your money and your rights are protected by the National Newspaper Mail Order Protection Scheme.

I know some of you are still sceptical, here are some comments from people who figured that as I wasn't going to cash their cheques for at least 31 days they had nothing to lose. They were right, here's what they gained. (Initials have been used to protect their identity, originals may be inspected).

"I started working on your cure about a month ago. I was a bit cynical. If it's that easy, why was it not already well known? However, that could be said of a lot of discoveries."

It has taken a little while to be certain, but I am now certain that there are new hairs sparsely appearing in the receding areas, like trees sprouting in the desert. The numbers are increasing and I am delighted. Congratulations and many thanks."

"I am writing to say thank you very much for your book 'The Natural Cure to Baldness'. It is fantastic. I must admit I did notice a difference in the first two weeks, so I kept up the treatment for about another three weeks, and I was astounded at what I saw. My hairline was lower and thicker. I was absolutely over the moon. Also the doom and gloom feeling which haunted me since first noticing I was going bald went and I am filled with peace and joy again for the first time in four years. My hair's now growing faster and thicker."

"Just a note to say many thanks for 'The Natural Cure to Baldness'. It has changed my life. I never, ever thought my hair would grow back, it was thin on the crown and temple, but after ten months it has nearly all grown back. It is more than I could have wished for, just incredible. I am 31 and for a young man my confidence is back. Once again, many thanks."

"It seems that as consumers we complain, quite rightly, when something fails to give satisfaction. Alas, we are not always so ready to give praise when a product not only meets but exceeds reasonable expectations. I refer to D. Tubb's book 'The Natural Cure to Baldness'. I found the book to be concise, yet comprehensive in both its theory and explanation. I commenced Mr Tubb's regime on 1/3/92 and I can truthfully state that I noticed an improvement within 10 days in that my hair generally had more volume and bounce. Today, after precisely one month, the results are nothing short of extraordinary, for new hair has already grown in the temple area. I do not mean fine or 'vellus' hair, but hair of the same colour as the rest of my head, very clearly visible and approximately half an inch in length. This growth is all the more noticeable because it is below the previous hairline. As for the rest of my hair, it has grown more rapidly than usual, it is glossy and definitely seems thicker. Indeed it seems hard to believe that this has been achieved by just 5 minutes effort per day."

"As exactly three months has elapsed since commencing the regime suggested in your book. Suffice to say that following the advice given in your book the result has exceeded all reasonable expectations, and I am thrilled. My hairline is now completely restored to within a quarter of an inch of its original position and is just as luxuriant as it was when I was 25. So much so, in fact, that I could easily grow it long if I wished. What more can I say except to express my sincere and continuing gratitude for your book."

Don't believe a word of it, try it and see for yourself!

Make cheques payable to: QHR. Credit Cards 071-359 6446 24 hours (answerphone after 6pm). Quest Hair Research Ltd, 41 Pryland Rd, London N5 2JA. ©D. Tubb

Revolution sends Mole bananas

Our hero is forced to paddle his own canoe in the Soviet Union. As the nation throws off the yolk of communism, his emergency rations are purloined... Sue Townsend continues her comic tale

Wednesday July 3rd
Rang my travel agent. Told her I want two weeks in Europe in a four star hotel with half board, but for no more than £300. She promised to ring back if anything turned up in Albania. I said: "Bior Albania. I hear the food is inedible." After I'd put the phone down, I remembered that the word for food is, of course, "inedible". I hope I'm not suffering from an early onset of senile dementia.

Friday July 5th
The travel agent rang today. She said: "I must book it now if you want it." I said: "Book what?" She said: "Your holiday. A week on the Russian Lakes and rivers, and a week in Moscow. A fortnight for £299.99, full board."

Thursday August 13th
I leave for Russia on Thursday. I bought myself a new toiletry bag — it's time I treated myself. I spent the evening packing. I decided not to take any books. I expect there will be a library on the ship, well stocked with the classics of Russian literature in good translations.

I decided to include a huge bunch of semi-ripe bananas amongst my luggage. I am used to eating a banana a day and I have heard they are in short supply in Russia.

Saturday August 7th
RIVER CAMP — RUSSIA
It's 7.30pm. There is no cruise ship. There are no passengers. Each member of our party is paddling their own canoe. I am crouched inside a two-man tent. Outside are swarms of huge, black mosquitoes. With a bit of luck, I will die in my sleep.

The man I have been sharing my tent with, Leonard Clifton, is out chopping trees down with a machete. On my return to civilisation,

I will sue Foreign Parts for every penny they've got. At no time did they mention that I would be paddling a canoe, sleeping in a tent, or drinking water from the river. 10.00pm. TENT. Capsized eleven times. The rest of the heathens were furious. It is all right for them. They are all members of the British Canoe Union.

I thank God that we are nearly at our journey's end.

I think fondly about the bunch of bananas upstairs in my room.

At 9.30am, most of our group gathered in the foyer of the hotel ready to start our visit to Red Square. I lurked behind a pillar, dabbling TCP onto the mosquito bites which disfigured my face.

When we got to the Square, it became obvious that a demonstration of some kind was taking place. I heard an

reached into my pocket for a banana to boost my blood-sugar level. I started to peel it. The young woman's eyes filled with tears. I offered her a bite, but she shouted: "Bananas for all under Yeltsin!" The crowd began to chant. Then the young woman ate my banana. "A symbolic gesture, of course," she said.

Friday August 23rd
I lay awake most of the night, scratching at my mosquito bites.

The next day the streets were full of rioting Muscovites. After lunch, I returned to my room to find that my bananas had gone. I was outraged.

I complained to our guide Natasha, but she only said: "You had ten bananas?" She looked misty-eyed and then snapped: "You should, of course, have put them in the hotel safe. They will be changing hands on the black market by now."

Monday September 2nd
OXFORD
I have written to Foreign Parts, threatening to report them to ABTA unless I receive all my money back, plus compensation for the double trauma suffered from the mosquitoes and the revolution.

Saturday September 7th
I passed Foreign Parts. There was a note on the door: "This business is closed. All enquiries to Churchman, Churchman, Churchman and Luther, Solicitors."

A middle-aged couple were taking the number down. They were due to depart tomorrow on a cycling holiday in "Peter Mayle Country". Providence. They were facing the awful realisation that they were not going to see the famous table or the infamous terrace, or take tea with Pierre Mayle plus femme.

As the couple walked away, I heard her say to him: "Cheer up, Derek, there's always the caravan at Ingoldmells." A fine woman, indomitable in the face of disaster. Mr Mayle has been cheated of meeting a true Brit.

TOMORROW: Mole in love
● Adrian Mole: The Wilderness Years will be published by Methuen London on August 31 (£8.99).

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سكز في الاصل

Recent cases of sexual misconduct emphasise the fact that intimate examinations are almost never essential, says Dr James Le Fanu

When the doctor should not touch

Last Wednesday Dr Edward Asirifi, of Clapham Manor health centre (my local doctor, incidentally), was found guilty of performing long and unnecessary breast and internal examinations on six female patients and banned from practising in the NHS. It now seems inevitable he will be struck off the Medical Register when he is summoned before the General Medical Council later this year.

Though Dr Asirifi's misdemeanours have been well substantiated, there is considerable uncertainty about what does constitute a "necessary" intimate examination, with the implication that they are performed too readily.

The experience of one of the complainants against Dr Asirifi is illuminating. This 44-year-old woman visited the surgery with symptoms of cystitis, expecting to be asked for a urine sample and to be given some antibiotics. To her surprise, Dr Asirifi insisted on a vaginal examination: "I lay on the couch, he was laughing, he realised he was getting sexual satisfaction from it. At one point I said in my most authoritative voice 'What exactly is it you are looking for?' He gave me a medical explanation which I now know was totally spurious." Do doctors perform too many internal examinations (or breast or rectal examinations) without thinking through the reasons for doing so?

Consider, for example, a woman suspected of having an ectopic pregnancy because she has lower abdominal pain and has missed a period. Many doctors would say an internal examination is essential to establish the diagnosis, but others would disagree. The woman will obviously have to be referred to hospital, where an obstetrician will repeat the internal, so it seems unfair she should be submitted to it twice.

Anyhow, she will certainly require an ultrasound to confirm (or exclude) the diagnosis of an ectopic prior to any action being taken — in which case there was nothing to be gained by doing an internal examination in the first place. In general, ultrasound scans are much the best way of sorting out this type of problem by limiting the need for vaginal examination to those circumstances where an infection is suspected and swabs have to be taken — or where the cervix has to be visualised when a smear is performed.

The second argument in favour of intimate examinations is that they should be part of any routine health check to detect potentially serious problems, such as cancer. In May this year, in two separate cases, male doctors found themselves in a situation similar to that of Dr Asirifi when they were accused of "lingering too long" over the breast examination as part of an insurance medical. In fact, the only purpose of routine physical examination of the breasts is to detect cancer and this is best done by a mammogram which alone can detect the very small (and so most readily curable) tumours.

It is the same story with routine pelvic examinations which, according to Mr R.K. Goswami, of the Churchill Clinic, "even if conducted by an experienced gynaecologist will miss 50 per cent of abnormalities of the ovaries". "Routine" rectal examinations have also been advocated for men as a way of picking up prostate cancer, but a Bristol GP, Dr Terry Kempe, who has screened 500 men in this way, concluded it was "a useless investigation to detect important abnormalities of the prostate gland in patients without symptoms". It is difficult to find any justification for intimate examinations as part of a general health check. Their use should be restricted to cases where there are obvious symptoms of, for example, breast tenderness or urinary obstruction where the patient would naturally expect the relevant organ to be scrutinised.

Stand up and be healed

Doctors think miracle cures are bogus. But Simon Wessely wonders if charismatic powers might not work where psychiatry has failed

Last week I went to the Earl's Court exhibition centre to hear Morris Cerullo, the American evangelist whose posters promising miraculous healing have been spread around London. Mr Cerullo modestly disclaimed any personal ability to perform miracles, stating instead that these were the work of the Lord.

Nevertheless, the theme of miracles dominated his four-hour performance, and, amid scenes of rising excitement, Mr Cerullo duly obliged. A woman announced as suffering from multiple sclerosis and heart disease appeared. She had been cured during the previous night's performance, and performed a credible Irish jig in proof.

The rest of the night was given over to drink and drug problems. The front of the stage filled up with cigarette packets discarded by members of the audience who then received Mr Cerullo's blessing, many of them falling over in an apparent trance. Then a pregnant woman who admitted to cocaine addiction was brought forward. As the 20,000 crowd chanted "Jesus Jesus" Mr Cerullo attempted to cast out the evil spirit which inhabited her. As she was led off stage, he instructed his aides that she was not to leave the hall until she had begun to speak in tongues.

What had the audience witnessed? It is nothing new for charismatic preachers, and indeed charismatic doctors, to claim miracle cures. Although such claims are international, more seem to come out of the United States, with its tradition of the travelling medical show, than anywhere else.

The most common explanation for miraculous cures is that the person who was cured never had that particular disease in the first place. It is rare for sufferers to invent diseases to gain the attention that follows a miraculous cure. More common is misdiagnosis.

The interpretation of a shadow on an X-ray, or of cells under a microscope, is a matter of judgment. Mistakes are made.

Even more common is misunderstanding. In my clinical practice I see patients whose notes and letters state that they have been diagnosed as suffering from a variety of serious diseases, such as multiple sclerosis, epilepsy or angina. On reading the file in detail one finds the diagnosis was often made many years ago by a busy junior doctor and never subsequently challenged. Sometimes there is an entry "Could be angina", or "asthma?" in the notes. With the passage of time and the change of doctors, the query gets forgotten.

These patients may experience genuine symptoms such as chest pain or palpitations, the result not of chest or heart disease, but psychological disorders such as depression or anxiety. In others, what looks like epilepsy or multiple sclerosis is also psychological in origin.

Classic Freudian teaching calls this hysteria, which is said to occur when a patient represses intolerable psychological conflicts and distress, which are then converted into a loss of physical function — hence the modern term for hysteria, conversion disorder. Studies have shown that about 5 per cent of those attending an epilepsy clinic actually have similar psychiatric illnesses, and not epilepsy.



Casting out illness and the evil spirits that caused it: American evangelist Morris Cerullo used a powerful mix of emotion, music and exhortation on his Earl's Court audience

investigation by the BBC Programme *Heart of the Matter* also failed to find any evidence for miraculous healing.

Few doctors will be surprised by these findings. Previous claims of miraculous cures for dread diseases have never withstood critical scrutiny, and there was no reason to believe that Mr Cerullo's miracles would be any different.

Just like the vast majority of doctors, including those of strong religious faith, I find the business distasteful. It may also be damaging. Despite the no doubt legally inspired disclaimer in the programme for the Earl's Court show, some sufferers may abandon medical treatment in the erroneous belief that they have been cured. Others may have hopes raised, only to suffer the inevitable despair when the miracle fails to happen.

If illness is the result of man's sins and is the devil's work, and can be cured by faith alone, as I heard Mr Cerullo claim, then those who are not cured might blame themselves for lack of faith, or believe that illness is their fault.

But as a psychiatrist, I have one nagging doubt. There are, indeed, some patients whom Mr Cerullo might be able to

cure. Modern neurology cannot cure those with hysterical symptoms, and years of psychiatric treatment does not always work. A condition which, like hysteria, depends upon an idea of illness, could respond to Mr Cerullo's exhortation. Charismatic healing might also work for another set of disorders. On the day I went to Earl's Court the theme was addiction. On the same day the *British Medical Journal* published a learned paper on stopping smoking. It pointed out that quitting smoking could be the result of an almost limitless number of factors — personal, social, financial, legal, psychological and so on. What about faith? Could that also help those like the pregnant woman addicted to cocaine at Morris Cerullo's meeting?

Even the most ardent supporter of psychiatric services for drug users would admit that therapy can be a difficult and frequently unrewarding struggle. One can imagine a psychiatrist confronting a particularly intractable and disturbed client saying, only half in jest, that only a miracle can help. Should we then send for Morris Cerullo?

■ The author is Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry at King's College Hospital.

With an eye to respectability, Mr Rifkin calls his organisation the Foundation on Economic Trends, a dull title for a body whose role is to undermine public apathy with disturbing revelations of what the biotechnologists and doctors are up to. Mr Rifkin was the man who inspired hundreds of American restaurants to place stickers on their doors declaring "We do not serve genetically-engineered food" before there was any for them to serve.

Last week a book by Andrew Kimbrell, policy director of the Foundation on Economic Trends, was published in Britain. *The Human Body Shop* belongs to an old tradition of American muck-raking. It bombards the reader with so many unpleasant facts that a few are bound to hit home. Mr

Kimbrell says, for example, that the sale of blood in America has become a multi-million dollar industry, and that unregulated traders are already making money selling foetal material, which has possibilities as a treatment for degenerative brain disease. Human organs are on sale throughout the Third World, while women in New York sell ova for *in vitro* fertilisation at \$2,000 (£1,380) a time.

It is clear, Mr Rifkin writes in the foreword to the book, that "what is required is a transformation of consciousness, a new understanding of our being and our rightful place and role in the world."

When anybody calls for a transformation of consciousness, I always find it prudent to read the small print. Otherwise you can find yourself living in a Welsh commune. What, really, is new? The

How scared should we be of organ transplants and genetic engineering?

Invasion of the doom mongers

fits without posing any radically new safety issues. Of course, we must be sure that the procedures are safe, while bearing in mind that for many potential recipients gene therapy is likely to be the only alternative to an early death.

GENETIC screening does pose difficulties, but they are not beyond solution. A decision will have to be made, and enshrined in law, over the rights of individuals and society to the results of such tests. That will present moral philosophers and lawyers with some interesting questions.

The truth is, I suppose, that for those who believe our society is intrinsically bad, the genetic revolution offers it new ways of being bad. For those of a more optimistic cast of mind, the knowledge provides many opportunities for improving human welfare. Mr Kimbrell has done us no favours, however pure his intentions might be.

NIGEL HAWKES

● *The Human Body Shop: the engineering and marketing of life by Andrew Kimbrell. HarperCollins (£5.99).*

The deadly statistics of life in Russia

Anatol Lieven reports from Moscow on disease and declining medical standards in the former Soviet Union



Hunger on the street... a soup kitchen in Moscow

When my prospective mother-in-law rang from India to ask anxiously about plague and contagion in Moscow, I knew conditions here must be pretty bad. For the moment, as I told her, bad it may be and getting worse, but public health in Russia is still better than India and most of the Third World.

Words like bubonic plague, or the black death, are indeed enough to freeze the blood, even if the plague is only endemic in the marmot population of central Asia and Siberia. The infectious diseases now spreading across Russia were all in theory virtually eradicated here in the 1960s.

In fact, their suppression was often as much a matter of Soviet censorship as Soviet medicine. Russia lies on the edge of what used to be called the "Greater Asiatic Germ Pool". In the past, the region

was repeatedly ravaged by epidemics emerging from Asia, and it remains highly vulnerable.

At present, Tajikistan is suffering an epidemic of cholera, which has crossed the border from Afghanistan and spread rapidly among refugees displaced by the Tajik civil war. Russia, too, is suffering individual cases of cholera.

From the early years of Gorbachev's glasnost, Western observers were surprised by the frequency with which Soviet newspapers began to report local outbreaks of disease. Diphtheria was almost wiped out in Russia by vaccination campaigns in the 1960s, some 15 years after this had occurred in the West. Its

reappearance on a large scale has been due partly to a typically Soviet mixture of recklessness and penny-pinching in the mid-1980s, when the authorities decided diphtheria was no longer a menace.

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Lynne Truss



■ When is a child not a child? When it's a cello, so cough up

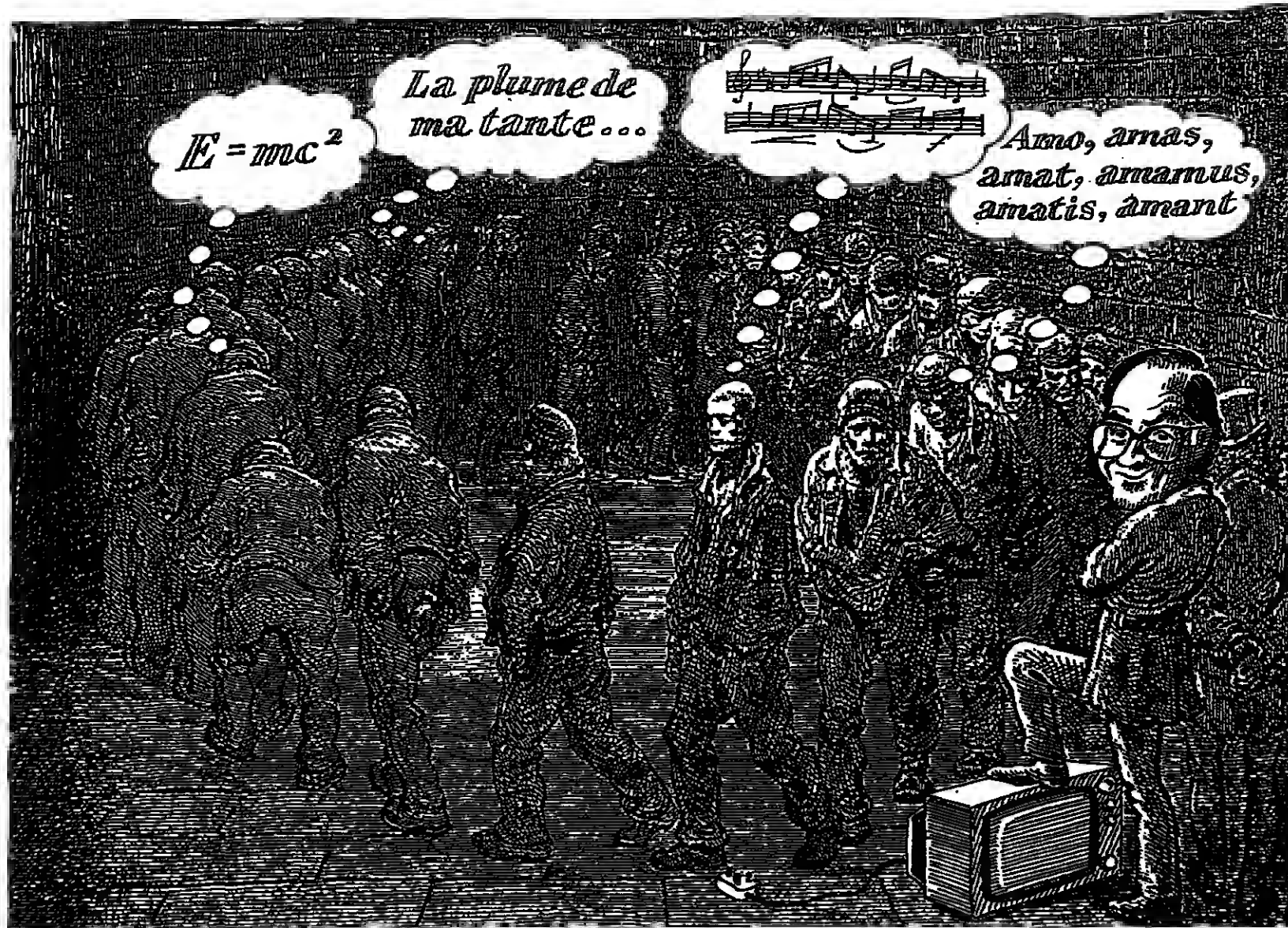
The inoffensive cello-player is not normally associated with the phrase "up in arms". In the history of revolutions, cellists are rarely to be found in the vanguard, piling their priceless instruments into curvy, polished barricades which go "Twang!" when pounded by artillery. But there is a first time for everything. Get behind chaps with cello cases in a British Rail ticket queue these days, and you will find that the incensed argument against the proposed fare increases has already begun — for, since May, they must either pay the child fare for their cellos, or sling their hook.

"What do you mean?" they cry, wringing their lovely supple hands: "I've got a concert in Liverpool. My travel allowance is just for me." "New regulations," snaps the ticket man. "It's not just cellos. Child fare applies to surfboards, canoes and skis as well." The cellists, who spend more hours alone practising the twiddle bits in the Haydn C than arguing the toss with British Rail officials, are ill-prepared for this confrontation, but sometimes they simply refuse to pay. Sometimes their orchestra backs them up. BR insists they should store their cellos in the guard's van, moreover, which sends them into additional despair and disbelief. "In the guard's van? Have you gone mad?"

All right, you can see BR's point about canoes, especially the long ones as paddled by native Americans in the 18th century. Anyone wishing to bring such an item on board a British Rail service should certainly be penalised, if not locked up permanently in the public interest. Imagine the potential for mayhem. Chap balancing canoe upside down over his head (so that he can't see) proceeds along platform, other commuters walking beside him, blithely unaware of the potential danger. "Hey, you!" shouts somebody. "Who's me?" says the canoeist, and swings round, canoe and all, smartly knocking flat a great swathe of commuters, making an effect something like a crop circle.

But cellists are not in the same category. As Garrison Keillor pointed out in his essay "The Young Lutheran's Guide to the Orchestra", they are self-evidently non-aggressive. They have put their arms around their instruments, they look like parents zipping up a child's snowsuit. They are also self-contained. On those crowded station platforms they wifle elegantly through the mêlée (it's something to do with their centre of gravity); on the train, they rest the instrument in a baggage space, and leave it. Thereafter the cello does not insist on crisps or trips to the lavatory. Nor does it drum the seat, or stare other passengers out of countenance. I am willing to bet that in the history of rail travel no one has ever complained, "Can't you do something about that cello of yours? Good God, it's really getting on my nerves."

Arguably, paranoia is a term that suffers from over-use (last week, a woman told me "I'm paranoid about my hips," meaning she was sensitive about them. I think, not scared they were out to get her). But cellists of my acquaintance are growing justifiably paranoid about BR. "Why this victimisation?" they lament. In their worst moments, they speculate deliciously what the ultimate effect will be. Cellists will become less mobile! Composers will scrub out the cello parts! In years to come, British music will divide historically at the "InterCity watershed" — i.e. with and without cello. A friend phoned a BR chap, and was brusquely informed it was simply a matter of dimensions — anything six feet tall counts as a child, he barked, as though this made obvious sense. Only afterwards did she realise that her cello is not six feet tall anyway, more like four foot six. Possibly it was all just a clever ruse by British Rail, to draw the heat away from the proposed 16 per cent increase in Travelcards. They reckoned that the nation would get so fed up with whingeing string players in frock coats and bow-ties advancing on Parliament with their spikes out that the new increases could be slipped through. But unfortunately the plan misfired, perhaps because "Out of the guard's van! Into the vanguard!" was too weak a rallying cry, or perhaps because too few people recognise militancy when it's dressed up so nicely, spends a lot of time sitting down and (worst of all) brings to mind a member of the Lloyd Webber family.



The hearts of darkness

A continent riddled with corruption comes to the reluctant realisation that it was not the white man's fault after all

It is difficult to entirely withhold admiration from President Babangida, dictator of Nigeria and — on a massive scale, although not of course touching Mobutu's record — a rogue and scoundrel. (Well, I can't call him a blackguard without being seriously misunderstood.) After all, a dictator who can campaign throughout a fake election with a party label classifying him as "Messiah-Democrat" can hardly lack a sense of humour.

Still, it is more important to record that he is a rogue and scoundrel. For a brief moment it looked as though he would not be able to reimpose his impudent rule; but after a series of fraudulent promises of fraudulent elections, and one that he was more or less obliged to undergo, he bounced back with a new date for new polls, naturally no less fraudulent. Alas, only a few weeks later he declared that these would have to be postponed, no doubt lest he might lose them. No doubt he will, in his campaigning, make as much as he can of the words of the Reverend Jesse Jackson, who called this brutish dictator "one of the great leader-servants of the modern world in our time". And now comes the news that Babangida is really going to surrender power this time, naturally taking it back immediately.

Nigeria was freed from colonial rule in 1960: bliss was it, more or less, in that dawn to be alive until, only six years later, the military took over and extinguished the infant democracy, whereupon began the country's corruption, a disease that from then on has steadily worsened, so that today it is among the very worst in the whole continent. There was, it is true, one short remission of genuine civilian rule from 1979 to 1983, after which the military took over again, but that was when Babangida saw his chance. He is now, as he has been since 1985, "Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Chairman of the Armed Forces Ruling Council" — and, do not forget, a Messiah-Democrat. But I am not proposing to spend the next thousand words on Babangida. What I want to do is to wonder aloud why so many of the states of the African continent have failed in almost everything, from improving the standard of living of their peoples to the apparently ineradicable corruption, and from the tyrannies that rule so many of the states to the pitifully small contribution that they have offered the world.

There are, of course, those who claim

to be not at all surprised: black men, they say, can't do anything useful, whether it is ruling, or organising, or making, and it is because they are black that they are useless. This hypothesis is bolstered by the advances made in Asia: it is not necessary to say that sub-Saharan Africa has not made a Hong Kong, for a glance at the map shows that virtually no effort made by black men in Africa can compare with what their equals are achieving in Asia.

But it cannot be true that black men are in some way constitutionally deficient in, say, intelligence or understanding. Whether white, pink, black, brown, green or heliotrope — brains in general are no different one from another, and they can all do what any can do. So why don't they? Education is often blamed, and perhaps rightly, but then we come up against the Asian comparison: did the downtrodden people of Asian impoverishment lands get a better education? Where from?

Do not take this dispiriting evidence from me: take it from President Afeworki of Eritrea, who is as black as it is possible to be. He was addressing leaders of the Organisation of African Unity at its annual conference, and for once (perhaps the only time in that truly useless body's entire existence) the members heard the truth. He called it, contemptuously, "a nominal organisation", and went on to say that:

Although the OAU has often championed the lofty ideals of unity, co-operation, economic development, human rights and other worthy objectives, it has failed seriously to work towards their realisation... Thirty years after the foundation of this organisation our continent remains afflicted by growing poverty and backwardness... The African continent is today a marginalised actor in global politics and the world economic order. Africa is not a place where its citizens can walk with raised heads, but a continent scorned by all its partners.

This indictment I got from *The Times's* correspondent at the conference, who significantly said of President Afeworki's speech that: "Absent from his speech was the routine rhetoric of speakers at previous OAU conferences who have blamed the former colonialists or the Cold war for Africa's ills. Mr Afeworki laid most of the blame for Africa's problems at the feet of Africans."

The correspondent's report was accompanied by a map of Africa: there were 24 black spots on it, each of these telling a more or less dreadful tale. Here, for instance, is Algeria black-spotted, with civil strife, assassinations, violent Islamic fundamentalism: here is Sierra Leone with its military dictatorship; here is Cameroon, suffering from rigged elections and threats of secession; here is

Zaire, with anarchy, civil strife and famine: here is Kenya with ethnic conflict, to say nothing of its brutal dictatorship: here... but the evidence is as clear as it is appalling. (True, the catalogue of fear and brutality did something extra: it brought out of retirement dead old Colin Legum, for whom over decades nothing bad could happen in Africa, or if it did it was the white man's fault. And — praise be — he hasn't changed a bit.)

Come, let us call the roll by name. In Kenya Daniel arap Moi stuffs his pockets and empties his people's larders; in Malawi, Hastings Banda still won't tell his age (we shall see whether he will accept his recent defeat at the polls, or do a Babangida); in Zaire Mobutu Sese Seko's ravages have almost destroyed the entire country, which is now disintegrating into roving gangs of bandits (President Mobutu himself is now rarely seen — he goes in perpetual terror of assassination, as well he might); there are more, each one more depressing when one thinks of what these people are doing to a

continent that is so full of riches that it could feed not only itself but much of the rest of the world, but which is left to rot.

Let us go back to Babangida. A moving story comes from Kayode Soyinka, a citizen of Nigeria: he paints, in *The Independent*, what Nigeria is going through. (The writer stunned me by saying that Babangida is reputed to have greater personal wealth than Mobutu, but that cannot possibly be true.) What clearly is true is what Mr Soyinka describes:

What Nigeria now has is politicians in military uniform, masquerading as army officers. They exploit the resources of the state ruthlessly, mainly for their own benefit; very few army officers in Nigeria today can justify their enormous personal wealth... The tragedy is the open and brazen manner in which the military steals money and displays its wealth.

That must mean that even if the real military take over, the poor of Nigeria will be no better off, and with no prospects of ever being better off.

I come back to where I started. Why has Africa, with all its massive potential, failed its people? And "failed its people" is indeed the indictment, as President Afeworki said bluntly, instead of blaming the white man as has hitherto been the excuse. And Mr Soyinka, who, after all, is a great deal nearer what is happening than I am, repeats almost word for word my bewilderment at Africa's failure, saying: "With her oil revenue and other resources Nigeria should be in the same development league as Malaysia, Singapore, Korea and Taiwan."

So what is the answer? If Africans are no less capable of improving their lot by their own efforts, why haven't they done so? It would be a remarkable irony if the new South Africa, when it is in place and working its fragile new system, took the rest of Africa in hand and showed it what can be done. For if Africa, ignoring the ashes of the phoenix, refuses to be taught by a truly multi-racial system, there will be no excuse for the continent's failure, and — worse — there will be no advancement for Africa's millions.

Meanwhile, the Asian Pacific rim not only shows Africa how it is done, but will shortly be showing the West as well: it has been said that within a couple of generations the white man will, with his wife, be the servants of the yellow ones. And where will Africa be then?

A captive workforce won't pay

Prison and the private sector do not mix, says Paul Barker

In judging the Home Secretary's reported wish for tougher prisons, with more work and less idleness, it is best to begin by acknowledging home truths about people's attitudes to crime and criminals. These attitudes are not friendly. People feel they are drowning in a sea of crime. In the countryside, burglary is a far commoner occupation than haymaking. In town, the popular pastime is, of course, stealing from cars.

Almost everyone pays a "crime tax". This is partly psychological: the need to ask yourself whether you locked every door, and to wonder if your children are safe. Partly it is gut-financial: insurance premiums, once a minor domestic item, have become as costly as if we were all insuring our own Crown Jewels. The boys and young men who carry out thefts from cars and houses are seldom caught. But anxieties and resentments from their unchecked activities exacerbate emotions about what should happen to the criminals the police do manage to catch and get convicted. In a nutshell: "Make them pay."

This has always been classic Conservative party territory. Michael Howard is trying to reclaim it, as was his predecessor, Kenneth Clarke. Mr Clarke proposed setting up tougher secure units for young offenders. Now Mr Howard wants prisons to be "more austere", with prisoners spending "more time working". How much of this is pure rhetoric? And, if it isn't rhetoric, what does it mean in practice?

The rhetoric component is high. Mr Howard faces a stern test at this autumn's party conference. Confronting such an audience, even the gentlemanly Lord Whitelaw, when Home Secretary, plumped for the idea of a "short sharp shock" — a scheme later quietly dropped. The law and order side of the party is crosser than ever: Sir Teddy Taylor has ferociously bobbed up everywhere in the past couple of days. In the *Sunday Telegraph*, Sir Peregrine Worsthorne even argued for letting more people carry their own guns, to defend themselves.

Standing in the other corner are the liberals, such as the Chief Inspector of Prisons, Judge Stephen Tumim, for whom the punishment of being sent to prison consists in the fact that it deprives you of liberty. Beyond that deprivation, in this view, prisoners should be treated as humanely as possible, and their chances of ending up back in prison wantonly increased. I put it like that because it is as well to acknowledge, also, that there is little evidence that any kind of incarceration, humane or inhumane, punitive or rehabilitative, really improves the odds that inmates will go straight after their release.

Mr Howard is trying to walk a tightrope between the hard men and the soft. He is relying, perhaps, on the fact that most of the public know little of what goes on inside prisons and, except when there is a riot, care even less.

Prisoners serving long sentences already often spend time in work. The trouble lies with the local prisons, where short-term inmates are crammed together with remand prisoners (about 20 per cent of the jail population). Wandsworth prison, for example, with 800 inmates, has only part-time work for two-thirds.

To change this will not be cheap. At one time, the prison work programme cost about £2 for every £1 of output. It is now run in a less Soviet-style centralised manner, with devolution to governors. At East Sutton Park women's prison in Kent, they do a good line in mozzarella. But mozzarella manufacture dodges one of the big obstacles (apart from cost) in expanding work schemes: whose jobs are you taking? The cheese-makers of Italy are not members of British trade associations or trade unions.

The Home Secretary comes from the wing of the party which has been keenest on privatisations. Prison work has been set back by this. Many of the jobs used to be either for prisons themselves (uniforms, laundry) or for state enterprises (donkey jackets for the National Coal Board). In the untrammeled world of the marketplace, prison workshops have severe handicaps which could deter any firm wanting to put a contract their way. You cannot choose your workforce, or the location of the workplace. Most notably, you cannot increase efficiency and lower costs by putting in more capital equipment and cutting down on the workforce (as most firms consistently do): that undermines the whole point.

In the 19th century the prison treadmill was invented to make men work while not interfering with markets: "hard labour" produced nothing but sweat and knotted muscles. But if Mr Howard can find a way to bring more men (and women) into work within prisons, of a kind that will give them better skills on their release, the liberals and the reactionaries should both be pleased, in their different ways. But it is unlikely to cut costs.

Making prisons "more austere" is a different business. This, one can only hope, is pure rhetoric. No one reading the regular reports by Judge Tumim, or Lord Justice Woolf's report on the Strangeways riot, can be under any illusion about the grimness of most prison life. This grimness has self-evidently failed to deter more and more young people from dipping into the crime business. If it had deterred them, there might be a case for it. But as it has not, we owe it to ourselves to be humane to fellow human beings — even if it means gritting our teeth as we shell out on those soaring annual premiums.

Major dropped by party

JAMES MAJOR, the prime minister's son, would have been spared the press interest in his A-level results, it seems, if only he had performed just a little bit better in another crucial test of ability earlier this year.

The athletically inclined Major Jr, whose prowess in the football field is well-documented, could have spent last week with his cricketing chums in Zimbabwe as part of a Huntingdon schoolboys' side. But though he captained the second XI at his public school, Kimbolton, which fielded five of the 15-strong squad, he failed to qualify.

"He was in the final net session from which the tour party was selected, but didn't quite make it," says Martin Stephenson, chairman of Huntingdon Cricket 2000. But the Huntingdon team appear to be managing. "They played their first match on Friday against Prince Edward School in Harare," Stephenson says, "and won quite convincingly."

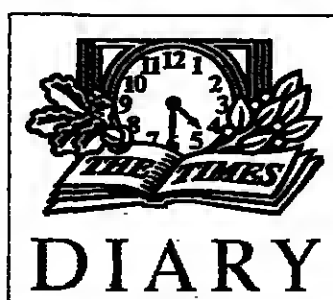
Such unusually good fortunes for an English touring side will, of course, bring mixed feelings to Major Jr as he contemplates his less than notable A-level results (C in physics, D in general studies and E in history).

Major Sr is president of Huntingdon Cricket 2000, which was set up under the Cricket 2000 scheme — a 1991 initiative, backed by the prime minister, to revive cricket in schools. Two years on and, after disagreements with the National Cricket Authority, Cricket 2000 is on the point of collapse. It's that Major touch again.

● If the England cricket selectors are still wondering how to replace Graham Gooch this winter, they could do worse than consider Jack Hyams, who has just completed 1,000 runs in a season — for the sixtieth season running. To what does the 73-year-old retired petshop owner and Lord's Taverner owe his success? Running between wickets for seven decades, no alcohol and lots of salads, he says. And he gave up smoking cigars a year ago — almost. "I still have the odd one when I'm playing cricket." Oh well — back to the clean-living David Gower, then.

RSVP

BRITISH members of the European Parliament have finally notched up a significant victory in their battle against red tape in Brussels. They have persuaded the



European Commission to speed up its letter-opening process after protesting that replies to written requests from MEPs are a little tardy; they have been taking between three and four months.

Since they appear to be by far the most frequent letter-writers, the British MEPs have been more exercised than their colleagues over the issue. But Lord Bethell, MEP for North West London, claims a dramatic improvement is already taking place.

"The Secretary General of the Commission has assured me that letters from MEPs will be answered within three weeks of receipt," he says. "It just shows that some of our British efficiency is beginning to rub off on Brussels."

Priceless

"WHAT is freely received, should be freely given," is how one Dub-

lin Jesuit explains why the order is giving Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ* to the National Gallery of Ireland.

But the gift has caused consternation among the world's better-endowed galleries, many of which would have given tens of millions of pounds in order to receive the Caravaggio into their collection.

The most disappointed is likely to be the National Gallery of Art in Washington which does not, as yet, possess any work by the Italian master — unlike London's National Gallery, which has no fewer than four.

Art historian Sir Denis Mahon, a former trustee of the National Gallery and the first Caravaggio expert called on by Dublin's National Gallery to authenticate the work, believes "a gallery of the

stature of Washington should have a Caravaggio. They will be disappointed. They would have bust a gut to acquire it. It is a fine example and completely authenticated."

It could not have gone to Italy, he says. "The Italians would love it, but no Italian gallery could afford it. Anyway, they already have quite a selection."

The National Gallery, which did the X-rays that helped to authenticate the painting, "admired it very much but said they did not have the money."

With the painting valued at between £20 million to £50 million, only one buyer is likely to have that sort of cash — the ubiquitous Getty museum in California.

Waiting for God

THE publication next month of Sheridan Morley's biography of his father Robert will no doubt be an uncomfortable reminder of Morley's longest-running project, his authorised biography of Sir John Gielgud, which was begun five years ago and still shows no sign of nearing completion.

According to publishing sources, the reason for the delay is that Morley does not want to publish the book until after Gielgud's death. Gielgud, they say, "resents the fact that Sheridan is waiting for him to die. But Sheridan

realises he will not be able to deal fully with Gielgud's life, especially his personal life, with him still alive."

Morley admits the timing of publication is "one of the areas of debate. I have been careful not to get too close to him. There is a certain freedom in writing a biography after your subject has died: people tend to talk differently."

Organ transplant

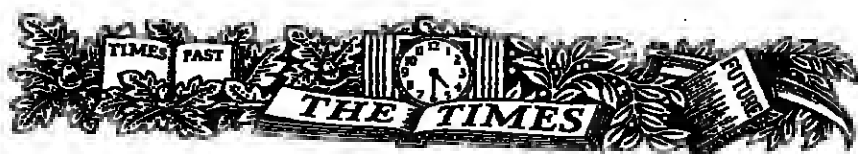
THE CHALK emblem that adorns the hillsides of England's south-west appear to be causing difficulties. Yesterday it was reported that the giant regimental badges cut into a hillside near Salisbury, in Wiltshire, are suffering maintenance problems because of defences cuts. Now the latest National Trust magazine tells of work on the splendidly priapic giant that graces Cerne Abbas in Dorset.

The 2,000-year-old and 180ft tall Cerne Giant has been given cosmetic surgery in a "delicate" operation, says the trust. "National Trust archaeologists have raised the vital organ by about nine inches. The giant, generally regarded as an ancient fertility symbol, requires regular maintenance."

But before anyone jumps to the wrong conclusion, the National Trust has done nothing more than raise the profile of the giant's 6ft-long nose.



سكنا من الاصل



RUNNING ON TIME

Political arrogance is jeopardising rail privatisation

The worst error the government could make in its battle over rail privatisation would be to imagine that success is preordained. The sale of gas, electricity and water provoked equally serious public anxiety, which proved to be mostly unjustified. John MacGregor, the transport secretary, may therefore be tempted to ignore parliamentary and public pressure to modify his plans for the railways, in the vainglorious belief that history is on his side. But as the government itself admits, the railways are different.

Telephones, water and gas, were all monopoly services, bound to be attractive to private investors; the main danger in privatising them was that customers would be over-charged in the quest for profits. British Rail, by contrast, is a weak, loss-making operator in a fiercely competitive transport market, where the rules of engagement are slanted against it by government transport policies. The main risk of limited privatisation — or "commercialisation" as Mr MacGregor prefers to call it — is that the public will be denied adequate services at a reasonable cost, once the railways are privately run.

Given the government's slender majority, the political omens are forbidding. The leaked BR proposal to increase fares by up to 16 per cent will make jittery Tory MPs still more anxious. The return of the rail privatisation bill to the Commons in October could easily provoke a backbench rebellion, forcing the prime minister to choose between another round of divisive Maastricht-style whipping or another humiliating reversal. Instead, he should pre-empt revolt now by thinking again.

The government should return to first principles, explaining to the electorate (and reminding itself) why it embarked upon this complex reform. In general, public services are better contracted out to private firms than kept in the bureaucratic clutches of the state. The benefits of privatisation — of prisons, rubbish collection, or passenger trains — should be improved services,

efficiency and accountability to customers.

In the case of the railways, however, there are three other crucial elements in the equation: the amount of subsidy the government provides to maintain uneconomic, but socially desirable, services; the level of fares judged acceptable to the public; and the balance between public investment in railways and roads. It may suit the government to shirk responsibility for fare increases and line closures — and it may be in keeping with the Transport Department's traditions to respond to Treasury strictures by squeezing investment in rail, while protecting its road-building programme — but to conceal such policies behind the front of "commercialising the railways" would risk discrediting the whole concept of privatisation.

The first step in a coherent process of commercialisation should therefore be for the government to make explicit decisions on the desired size of Britain's rail network and the subsidies (if any) travellers should receive to induce them to use rail rather than roads.

The next element should be to establish the right relationship between the state and private franchisees. Contracts must guarantee minimum service frequencies, set benchmarks for future fare levels and include rigorous assurances of quality. They must be open to public scrutiny. The government should also swallow its prejudices and accept the Lords amendment allowing BR itself to compete for some, at least, of the best franchises. The object of change must be better rail services, not ideological point-scoring. To exclude completely the one organisation in Britain which has experience of railways is absurd.

Ministers must, in short, give a convincing practical justification for proceeding with this reform, at this time. They cannot rely on the general case for privatisation. The issues still unresolved are important enough to warrant a fresh white paper. To succeed with this policy, the government will need more patience and less arrogance.

NICARAGUAN TIGHTROPE

Señora Chamorro's political battle

Señora Violeta Chamorro, the Nicaraguan president, is in a desolate political position. In a dramatic sequence of events, right-wing rebels, or *contras*, have taken a sizeable number of left-wing officials hostage in the north of the country. Responding in kind, pro-Sandinista commandos in Managua last week seized vice-president Señor Virgilio Godoy and 27 others, demanding their comrades' release.

The demand of the *contras* is more complex by far. It goes to the core of the problem which has plagued Señora Chamorro since she took office in April 1990: the need to dismiss Señor Humberto Ortega, the Sandinista army chief, the price demanded by the US as the price for future aid.

Señora Chamorro's decision to forge a *modus vivendi* with the Sandinistas, whom she defeated in the 1990 elections, was profoundly unpopular with conservative factions in the National Opposition Union, her victorious but rickety alliance. Her support in the National Assembly has been eroded and she now depends on Sandinista scaffolding for parliamentary survival. Her most inflammatory decision, for the right, was the retention as army chief of Señor Humberto Ortega, to whom *contras* were bitterly opposed.

It was, at the time, an adroit move. The demobilisation of the armed forces was essential and required the full cooperation of the Sandinista military establishment. To his credit, Señor Ortega has reduced the army from nearly 100,000 to just 15,000 in three years. This radical surgery, while consonant with both Señora Chamorro's

political agenda and American interests, has had unhappy social implications. The demobilised soldiers are jobless, as is nearly 60 per cent of the workforce.

Unemployment on this scale may, in part, be explained by the economic policies adopted by the government. In some ways, it has worked an economic miracle, routing a rampant hyperinflation. The economy is one of the most liberal in the continent, but the cost has been mass unemployment. The withholding of American aid has worsened the parlous socio-economic situation. Senator Jesse Helms, spearhead of the assault on Nicaragua, was the unsympathetic architect of last month's vote by the US senate to deny \$90 million in aid.

In Nicaragua's interest, Señora Chamorro must try to prevail upon Señor Ortega to accept another post. She has the constitutional authority to dismiss him but not the political power. She will have to enlist the support of moderate Sandinistas, in the name of genuine national reconciliation, and of Señor Ortega himself. As army chief he is both a red rag to the American bull and the source of serious offence to the Nicaraguan right. His transfer laterally, to a non-military niche will, however, have to be packaged delicately. Señora Chamorro will have to ensure that it is not seen as a capitulation, either to the hectoring of hostage-takers or to American pressure. This will displease the left but will weaken the hand of the radical right. Most importantly, however, it could clear the way for the resumption of American aid to Nicaragua.

PERFECT GLORY

How our cricketers could be more like our athletes

It is tempting to look at Britain's achievements in the athletics championships at Stuttgart and conclude that our athletes, like some of our golfers and racing drivers, are natural winners. Our cricketers, by contrast, seem to have joined our footballers and tennis players in the ranks of natural losers. The success in Stuttgart, however, has been something of a contradiction.

British athletics achievement over a century has predominantly been at the middle distances, most recently in the era of Coe, Ovett and Cram. But during the world championships the triumphs have come from our sprinters and hurdlers, in a traditional field of American men's dominance, and from Sally Gunnell, a woman hurdler, and Steve Smith, the first high jump medal-winner for 85 years. It is probable, that the current success is a random incidence of elite talent similar to the middle-distance triumphs ten years ago, which proved temporary.

The lessons from Stuttgart are both positive and negative and some are common to all contemporary sport. The biggest danger is that athletics, as it becomes more professional, will fall into the sad condition of football and cricket, in which players, pursuing commercial opportunities begin to resemble automatons, boring and devoid of spontaneity.

It is 20 years since our football was condemned by one of the world's foremost foreign coaches for breeding "industrial

footballers". This danger is ever-present in athletics, and elements of it were apparent in Stuttgart. Being exposed at every appearance to absolute measurement of performance, the athlete does not have the licence of other professional sports performers, in ball games, to play below par and still be able to entertain. With the new financial temptation to compete too often rather than train diligently for a peak at major championships, the athlete runs the increasing risk of injury, performance-related illness, or mere staleness. At Stuttgart, beneath the brilliant surface, the most conspicuous sight was of ailing athletes.

Most of our cricketers and footballers also play too much. Decline in international performance has less to do with a new and undefined British incapacity for team games, than with concentration, in coaching and public expectation, on the "wrong" objective: on one-day cricket, with its perverted technical demands, and on win-at-all-cost domestic football.

The positive lesson of Stuttgart, also exemplified by several of our golfers, is the essential concept of elitism: that the most talented performers must first devote themselves to the perfection of their technique, and that only this will bring the satisfaction of achievement, public acclaim and financial success. Our footballers and cricketers work hard, but too little at perfection. As Stuttgart has shown, perfection will ultimately bring the proper rewards.

The successes and failures of A level

From Dr J. Nicholas

Sir, "Common sense suggests that some sleight of hand has been performed in measuring [the latest A-level] results", according to your leading article of August 19. You give absolutely no evidence for this damaging allegation.

Writing as an A-level teacher at a further education college, I would suggest that it is "common sense" that the level of achievement at A level can be improved and that it has been lifted on this occasion.

Many factors account for the improvement. Coursework is included in the assessment of many A-level subjects. There is an increasing recognition of the importance of study skills. There is closer co-operation between teachers and exam boards in establishing wider understanding of syllabus and exam requirements.

We need a more constructive debate about how achievement in education past 16 can be assessed and improved even further. We do not need the rehearsing of stereotypes of an opposed "left" and "right" pursuing or debating myths about standards and a "golden age".

Yours faithfully,
JOE NICHOLAS,
35 Brookwood Lane,
Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.
August 19.

From Mr W. N. F. Carter

Sir, Earlier this year my son gave up a comfortable lifestyle to go back to studying for A levels to get into a newly created university. After much burning of midnight oil he achieved it.

Being a mature student he was prepared to work all hours but found, to his horror, that he was "programmed" by his department for only 12 hours a week. He felt that if he spoke to his tutor, perhaps a more useful timetable could be arranged, but in spite of spending three months knocking on doors, telephoning and writing letters, which were not even answered, he never managed to meet his tutor. So he left.

One doesn't have to have A levels to see where the fault lies.

Yours etc.
W. N. F. CARTER,
Quatre Bras, 81 Plains of Waterloo,
Ramsgate, Kent.
August 15.

From Mr Michael Hart

Sir, A levels showed a further decline in maths and science entries. Modern languages are also in decline. Universities have difficulties in honouring

their commitments to arts and social-science candidates, whilst places for science candidates go begging. AS levels, as predicted, are a flop.

When will it be generally accepted that A levels cannot be patched up but have to be replaced by a new five or six-subject curriculum and exam?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HART,
49 Chesterfield Road,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
August 19.

From Mr D. S. J. Gardner

Sir, Libby Purves's despair at the decline in the popularity of science among A-level students ("Shedding science's stigma", August 20) must be shared especially by those who have followed a scientific course. Sadly, the reason why students are turning away from science is mundane, but compelling — the lack of job opportunities in our contracting industries.

My daughter, leaving Bristol University with a respectable degree in biochemistry, is relieved to have found short-term employment in Germany as an au pair. Echoes of Libby Purves's experience were unmistakable in her career adviser's words: "Perhaps you could regard your science as a hobby, dear. Have you thought about merchant banking?"

Yours faithfully,
D. S. J. GARDNER,
12 Wray Park Road,
Reigate, Surrey.
August 20.

From the Headmaster of St Catherine's School, Bramley

Sir, It is not unsupportable that we now have the situation where the A-level candidates are the last people to learn about their own results? Throughout this week there has been a great deal of media speculation about these, and on the related topic of the shortage of places on some degree courses. This has had the undesirable effect of cruelly exacerbating the anxieties that are naturally felt by the young people at this time.

I suggest that, in future, those who have worked hard and sat the examinations should be extended the courtesy of being informed of their grades before they become public property. In this way a great deal of wholly unnecessary anguish would be avoided.

Yours sincerely,
J. R. PALMER,
Headmaster, St Catherine's School,
Bramley, Guildford, Surrey.
August 19.

Cancer treatments

From Professor Peter Selby and Professor R. T. D. Oliver

Sir, Your article ("Medicine's North-South divide", August 5; also letters, August 19) draws particular attention to regional differences in radiotherapy regimens for cancer treatment. However, there are other serious problems with cancer care in the UK: these include a substantial shortfall in the provision of cancer specialists, which is less per patient than in Australasia and in North America.

Not surprisingly, our national results for cancer treatments are worse than in those areas. There is also a lack of comprehensively equipped and staffed cancer centres in the UK and

cancer services in district general hospitals are fragmentary and understaffed.

These problems may be more pressing in the north. However, an independent review of specialist cancer services in London, published by the Department of Health last June, in the wake of the Tomlinson report, made sweeping recommendations for change. There is an urgent need for careful consideration of the broad pattern and resourcing of cancer care in the UK as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SELBY,
St James's University Hospital,
Beckett Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire.
R. T. D. OLIVER,
Medical Oncology Department,
The Royal London Hospital, E1.

Care of mentally ill

From Mr Nigel Walker

Sir, Dr John M. Crichton's letter of August 12 represents hospital psychiatrists as being responsible only for their patients' welfare rather than for the public's safety. It is a rhetorical over-simplification to say that "the role of protecting the public is not unwelcome to medicine, but the role of jailer is".

The Mental Health Acts specifically require psychiatrists to have regard to the protection of the public as well as patients' interests.

Unlike jailers, they can set their charges free when they think fit (although in the case of restriction

orders the law sensibly requires their decisions to be subject to confirmation by the home secretary or a mental health review tribunal). They cannot shrug off all responsibility for the unfortunate outcome of a mistaken discharge.

Again, the statement that the mentally ill "are no more violent than the general population" is an equally misleading one.

Some are, in fact, less violent; but some recognisable sub-groups are more likely to be violent (for example, paranoid schizophrenics).

I am, etc.
NIGEL WALKER,
King's College, Cambridge.
August 12.

Caravan sites

From Mrs Jennifer McGrandle

Sir, It is Mr Syd Wild, national chairman of the British Holiday & Home Parks Association (letter, August 16), not Mr Simon Jenkins ("Sprawl of immobile homes", August 7), who is misleading your readers.

True, planning laws exist, but here in north Cornwall, they are being blatantly abused by some site operators and inadequately enforced by the local planning authority.

At Trevoze Head, designated an area of outstanding natural beauty, there are two large caravan sites. Existing planning laws are apparently being openly flouted: by, for example, the carrying of more caravans than permitted; seasonal caravan parks becoming virtually permanent "housing estates" open for nine months of the year; and caravan rallies exploiting legal loopholes in the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 in order to occupy prime headland sites.

Neither Professor Barbour's solution of planting poplars (on gale-swept Cornish coasts?) nor Mr Burroughs's of camouflaging caravans (letters, August 16) will rid us of this

threat to our heritage. Only a radical reform of the outdated planning legislation on caravans will suffice.

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER MCGRANDLE,
Trezeze, Harlyn Bay, North Cornwall.
August 16.

From Mr Oliver B. Sheppard

Sir, The article by Simon Jenkins reads as an obituary to the English countryside disappearing under a mass of sprawling caravan parks, supposedly in the interests of tourism. The cardinal aims of planning are to decide where development should or should not take place and to regulate its design and appearance. This cannot be achieved successfully whilst weakness in planning rules and regulations are exploited.

For example, there is a case for curtailing permitted development rights in certain areas where the need for landscape protection and recreation is overriding. This would certainly bring temporary holiday

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Sociology and the ethnic melting pot

From Mr Malcolm Cross

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("The melting pot bubbles over", August 18) sees in some aspects of cultural diversity a threat to liberal democracy. Where he is mistaken is in seeming to counterpose material and political interests and the disciplines that have arisen to study them with "deep loyalties to ancestral tribe, language, religion, culture".

It is not simply that ethnicity has blossomed in Eastern Europe with the demise of communism. Under communism ethnic and regional interests were at various times repressed and at other times used to fragment opposition. Both measures served to strengthen what might otherwise have become folklore.

The fact that ethnic identity can legitimate and articulate a community interest, real or imagined, is a lesson that can be applied nearer home. By denying Muslim schools a right to public funding (report, August 19), the government does not thereby minimise community divisions. It may achieve the opposite by communicating to Muslims that their religion and traditions are their only source of recognition and acceptance.

You show elsewhere ("Is this a racist diagnosis?", August 19) that the sons and daughters of migrants from the Caribbean are particularly prone to schizophrenia.

In my view, had they differed sufficiently in religion and language from those about them then, faced with social rejection, they might well have been saved from this plight by enhanced ethnic identity. Multiculturalism may be second best to equal treatment but it is better than nothing.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM CROSS
(Executive Director),
European Research Centre on
Migration and Ethnic Relations,
University of Utrecht,
Faculty of Social Sciences,
Heidelberglaan 2,
De Uithof, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
August 19.

From Group Captain Hugh H. Eccles, RAF (retd)

Sir, Simon Jenkins is right: the world's democratic constitutions founded on 18th-century settlements have no adequate answers to counter the undemocratic actions of tribesmen

armed with modern weapons. Going back to anthropological basics to find the right solution may be the logical course of action but time is running out and revision by trial and error may be more realistic.

Starting with Maastricht, now is the time for Britain to take up the reins she held in Wellington's time and lead the European Community into the development of a constitution guaranteeing peace within and between all present and future member states. By example, this would lead to 20th-century settlements for the world-wide preservation of tribal rights. The choice is Mr Major's and the prize of historical proportion.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH H. ECCLES
(Chartered Engineer),
16 York Mansions,
Prince of Wales Drive, SW11.
August 18.

From Mrs Helen Corkery

Sir, Simon Jenkins earns support from those like myself who, since the 1960s, have regretted that it was sociology, not anthropology, that swept through the universities and seeped into the schools.

Anthropology, working from observation towards theory, must reflect life more accurately than sociology, which, in its modern manifestations at least, seems to put theory first and observation second.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN CORKERY,
52 Harrison Close,
Woodlands, Reigate, Surrey.
August 18.

From Dr K. F. Mole

Sir, The hour of the anthropologist which Simon Jenkins mentions struck at least 30 years ago. The late William Allen, an American consultant who negotiated a milestone management union agreement at Esso, Fawley, told me then that when recruiting an assistant he demanded an experienced anthropologist.

Lord Owen and other negotiators might well do the same.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH MOLE,
The School, Buckhorn Weston,
Gillingham, Dorset.
August 18.

Progress in Brazil

From the Brazilian Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

Sir, It was encouraging to see *The Times* acknowledge the new economic realities in Latin America and expressing the hope that the relationship between the international markets and the region should evolve to a "stable matrimony" ("Latin American promise", leading article, August 9).

However, to refer to Brazil as "corrupt and hyper-inflationary" is a sweeping generalisation that does not take into proper account what the Brazilian people and its political institutions achieved last year. There have been cases of corruption, some of which were highly publicised, but we have dealt with them in an exemplary manner. Brazilian society is proud of the way the country came out of last year's crisis with democracy unscathed and high moral standards in public life upheld.

Although it is true that Brazil's inflation rate is still at a staggering 30

per cent a month, the country is currently the world's ninth largest economy: its GDP amounts to \$400 billion — at least twice that of a medium-sized industrialised nation. It has deregulated foreign trade, consistently reduced import tariffs, and has been implementing a privatisation programme, which is proving very successful. Brazil has for some time resumed servicing its foreign debt and has almost \$25 billion in reserves.

It has had significant trade surpluses for many years (sometimes the third largest in the world) and this year these are expected to reach \$20 billion. The economy is expected to expand by 3.5 per cent in 1993.

These achievements represent no mean feat. It is surprising that in such a comprehensive article you should choose to describe my country in such derogatory and unfair terms.

Yours sincerely,
FREDERICO CEZAR DE ARAUJO,
Brazilian Embassy,
32 Green Street, W1.

Drink-drive policy

From Miss J. M. Davidson

Sir, Mr Anthony Holland (letter, August 17) opposes the proposed humiliation of drink-drive offenders by photographing and fingerprinting them (report, August 10), on the grounds that such proposals are an abuse of police power and a waste of time and resources. He seems to forget that the communities whom the police are "employed to serve" include aged pedestrians and young children, the frequent victims of drunken drivers of motor vehicles.

Yours faithfully,
J. MARY DAVIDSON,
9 Blunts Road, SE9.

Papal encyclical

From Professor Emeritus Geza Vermes, FBA

Sir, Having devoted many years of research to the historical Jesus, I am saddened and puzzled by the concern of Church people with such secondary matters as the ordination of women or the presumed contents of a leaked papal encyclical (letters, August 4, 9, 13, 16, 20). Would it not be more important to enquire first, using our considerably improved knowledge of the 1st-century world in which Christianity came into being, whether and how the Church and its teachings relate to the religion preached and practised by Jesus the Jew?

Yours,
GEZA VERMES,
The Oriental Institute, Oxford.

In a fix over fax

From Mr B. Milnes

Sir, I simply write "3 sheets follow" on the sheet preceding the first faxed page, instead of "attached" or "enclosed" (letters, August 16, 18) — and hope that they do.

Yours faithfully,
BARRIE MILNES,
19 Stanmore Court, Canterbury, Kent.

Long odds

From Mr David Thompson

Sir, I read with interest your report "Bookies cut odds on little green men" (August 21). Would the bookies not be better employed laying odds on the existence of intelligent life on earth?

Yours faithfully,
D. THOMPSON,
154 Jendale, Sutton Park,
Hull, North Humberside.

OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR PETER STOTT

Professor Peter Stott, civil engineer and president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1989-90, died on August 16 aged 66. He was born on August 8, 1927.

CIVIL engineers generally reach eminence late in life, their reputations built on decades of solid experience and achievements. Peter Stott was a spectacular exception. A scholarship to Clare College, Cambridge, where he gained a double first, a partnership in the consulting engineering firm of G. Maunsell & Partners, in charge of major civil engineering works, while still in his twenties; chief engineer at the London County Council with a staff of 4,500 in his mid-thirties; and still only in his mid-forties when he became director-general of the National Water Council on its establishment in 1973.

A brilliant analyst, he applied his skills first to engineering design and later to wider administrative and political issues. Nothing gave him more pleasure than to take a complex issue, apply some clear thinking, and present a simple analysis on a few sides of paper. The intellectual rigour which he followed up his conclusions frequently upset those affected by the resulting changes. On the other hand, he was endearingly earnest and straightforward, also extraordinarily loyal to close colleagues. Throughout his life he had all the enthusiasm and much of the restlessness of a schoolboy. If he had a failing, it was perhaps a lack of guile and, in his own words, he did not have "the killer instinct of a captain of industry".

Stott joined the great engineer, Guy



Maunsell, straight from university, first as personal assistant and later as partner. He established a reputation as one of the world's leading bridge engineers, working predominantly in the rapidly developing field of prestressed concrete. His works included the Hammersmith Flyover in London, Britain's first major structure of its kind and still one of the best, and a succession of bridges in Australia - Commonwealth and King's Avenue bridges in Canberra, Gladesville Arch in Sydney, and The Tasman Bridge in Hobart.

With his reputation established he

surprised his colleagues in 1963 by accepting the post of chief engineer at the LCC. The challenge of being in the driving seat for London's transport revolution had proved irresistible. Thereafter he became director of Highways and Transportation in the newly-formed Greater London Council.

He had two great achievements in this period. The first was the creation of the Department of Planning and Transportation at the GLC, which combined these two functions for the first time ever in local government, and preceded the formation of the Department of the Environment which had the same effect for central government. The second was the Greater London Development Plan which, for the first time, provided an understanding of how transport works in London. He conceived the concept of "dynamic balance", between provision for road traffic in London, and traffic restraint; he was to be disappointed on both sides of the scales. The new roads which he considered essential, including the motorway box, were never built; equally, neither were restraint measures pursued. Only now is government taking seriously the road-pricing concepts which Stott was advocating at that time.

In 1973 the water industry was being reorganised and the National Water Council was created as a forum for advising ministers and promoting efficiency. Stott was invited to become director-general and, once again, faced the challenge irresistible. He took particular pride in the 1978 review of the water industry which, in a short document, provided for the first time a

complete perspective of the whole industry. However, the Thatcher government wanted to accelerate change in the water industry and saw the National Water Council as an obstacle; its demise was all but inevitable and when the NWC was abolished in 1983 it was no surprise to Stott.

He was then appointed professor for the small civil engineering department at King's College, London. He soon recognised that there was no future for the department in its current form: it would have to expand substantially, and amalgamate or close. When it became clear to him that the former two options were not practicable he had no hesitation in implementing the closure of the department in 1989. During this period, he became chairman of the Quality Scheme for Ready Mixed Concrete and was instrumental in changing this important quality assurance service from being inward-looking to one that served the industry's customers with an established reputation of being truly independent.

Stott was president of the Institution of Highway Engineers from 1971-72, secretary-general of the International Water Supply Association, 1980-82; vice-chairman of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, 1980-82; and (his proudest achievement) president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1989-90, where he implemented a major reorganisation. At the time of his death, he was working with all his usual enthusiasm as honorary editor of the institution's leading journal, *Civil Engineering*. He is survived by his wife Vee and two sons, Andrew and Richard.

SALAH JADID

Salah Jadid, the effective ruler of Syria from January 1965 to November 1970 and later the country's longest-serving political prisoner, died in the fortress of Mezzeh, Damascus, on August 19 aged 67 years. He was born near the Alawite coastal town of Jablah in 1926.

TOGETHER with Syria's present dictator, Hafez Asad, and the late General Muhammad Ummara, Salah Jadid planned and executed the Baathist seizure of power in the country in 1963 and became its virtual ruler as the beginning of 1965, when General Ummara was ousted by the other two members of the trio. Six years later, when he was himself overthrown by Asad, he would not provide his old friend with an admission of defeat, thereby ensuring his incarceration until his death.

As with the other two conspirators, Jadid was born into Syria's Alawite religious minority with a strong sense of resentment against the Sunni establishment in Damascus. His family were small-holders in the village of Duwayr Babda near the coastal town of Jablah, which conferred on him a higher social rank than Asad's poor background afforded. But again, as with the other two men, he joined the

armed forces after secondary education as the best route of advancement for members of the despised religious minority.

The trio met in Cairo in 1959, then the capital of the ill-fated United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria (UAR), where they were posted as part of a policy of mingling the two countries' armies. There, they were drawn together not only by their unhappiness with the new, provincial status of Syria in the union, but also by the dissolution of their political party, the Arab Socialist Renaissance (Baath) party, which the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdel Nasser, had made a condition of the venture.

They supported the union, but nevertheless formed a secret military committee to revive the party and to warn Nasser of the unhappiness of the Syrian people. When in 1961, a right-wing military coup in Damascus put an end to the UAR, they were thrown into jail in Egypt until exchanged for a number of Egyptian officers imprisoned in Syria.

Back in Damascus, the three men found themselves demobilised in an unstable, chaotic country. They immediately set about reviving the military wing of the Baath party to organise a coup. In March 1963, against all the

odds, they succeeded. Then began a struggle among themselves for supreme power, which resulted in General Ummara being dispatched to Spain as ambassador and Jadid becoming the country's effective ruler.

However, despite his personal abhorrence of luxury and privilege, his policy of widespread nationalisation and his brutal repression of critics made him unpopular. His time in power also coincided with the Arab defeat by Israel in the six-day war of 1967 and with the humiliation of Syria when it half-heartedly tried to intervene on the side of the Palestinians in King Hussein's brutal "Black September" of 1970. Two months later, Jadid's rule came to an abrupt end when he stripped Asad of his military posts at a congress of the ruling party. Asad, who had been given command of the armed forces, disregarded the congress and arrested its leaders.

For the next 23 years, Jadid was held in the fortress of Mezzeh near Damascus, out of bounds to visitors. To justify his detention, President Asad's supporters say that in the last confrontation between the two men, Jadid, as the prisoner, had threatened to "drag you on the streets of Damascus until you die". If true, the stubborn display would be in character.

IVAN BILIBIN

Ivan Bilibin, chancellor to the late Grand Duke of Russia and monitoring pioneer, died on August 9 aged 84. He was born in St Petersburg on December 26, 1908 (December 13 according to the Julian calendar).

IVAN BILIBIN, son of the distinguished painter Ivan Bilibin, was privileged to be chancellor to the Grand Duke Vladimir of Russia at the time of the fall of communism, when the centre of gravity of the Russian monarchist movement was shifted from exile to Russia. He was also one of the pioneers of radio monitoring. Bilibin was educated at St Paul's School and at St John's College, Oxford, where he read classics. He had been stranded in England by the Russian revolution of 1917 while travelling with his mother on a visit to seek medical treatment for his elder brother.

After some years as a freelance journalist, Bilibin was engaged by the *Daily Express* to work in the experimental monitoring unit set up by Lord Beaverbrook at his estate near Leatherhead. The first scoop was provided by Stalin's speech on the new Soviet constitution in 1936, and Beaverbrook's *Evening Standard* was provided with quotations while the speech was still in progress. Other scoops were provided by the flights over the North Pole to America in 1937, and the rescue of Papanin's Arctic expedition in the same year.

In 1940 Bilibin joined the BBC monitoring service, which had been set up the previous year at Evesham and he stayed with the BBC until his retirement. With many distinguished colleagues from the early years of the BBC monitoring service, Bilibin

helped to develop the techniques of monitoring and to build up the BBC's formidable reputation for delivering fast and accurate translations of foreign leaders' speeches and other invaluable source material. Bilibin will be particularly remembered by his colleagues for predicting the collapse of the USSR decades before the event. Those who met his unswerving belief with scepticism can forgive him for setting the date, based on a study of the life-spans of tyrannies, about a decade too early.



Somewhat surprisingly for an anti-communist and devout adherent of the Russian Orthodox Church in exile, Bilibin displayed a remarkable tolerance towards those members of the Church in the USSR who were thought by some critics to have done too much in bending before communism. He regarded the Russian hierarchy's pro-Soviet political statements as a kind of "starep duty" that was worth paying in order to maintain a visible presence inside the USSR of an intrinsic-

cally anti-Soviet organisation. In 1927, just before going up to Oxford, Bilibin joined the Young Russian Union, a movement of youthful Russian exiles devoted to political reform within the framework of Russian tradition. It was as a representative of that body that he was first introduced to the Romanov family.

Bilibin regarded his service to the Russian monarchist cause as the main purpose of his life. His position in the BBC monitoring service was an ideal vantage-point from which to watch events unfold in the USSR, and in due course he became a valued political adviser to Grand Duke Vladimir. He drafted many of the Grand Duke's important political statements, including the "Address to My Compatriots" which was published in Boris Yeltsin's newspaper *Russiya* in January 1991. This was the first such address to be published in the Soviet Union since the murder of the Imperial family in 1918.

After performing a number of other services, Bilibin was later appointed private secretary and subsequently chancellor to the Grand Duke. In 1984-85 he published a book on the laws of succession to the Russian throne. His book, which appeared in Russian, English and French, is now a standard work of reference. In recognition of his services, Bilibin was made a knight of the Order of St Andrew, the Russian monarch's highest award, shortly before his death, and his funeral near Reading on August 13 was attended by Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Maria of Russia.

In 1942 Bilibin married Jean Stevenson, one of the very first members of the BBC monitoring service, who survives him. They had no children.

NICOLETTE POWELL

Nicolette Powell, wife of the pop singer George Fame (Clive Powell) and, from 1958 to 1971, first wife of the Marquess of Londonderry, died after a fall from Clifton suspension bridge, Bristol, on August 13 aged 52.

WHEN a vivacious stockbroker's daughter, Nicolette Harrison, married the ninth Marquess of Londonderry in the ancient Wessex village of Wilton in 1958 the omens seemed set fair. She was young - only 17 - extremely pretty and wealthy in her own right. She was barely out of finishing school and had been one of the last debutantes to be presented to the Queen.

Her 20-year-old husband, who had run a jazz band at Eton called the Eton Five, spoke seriously of a musical career. His sister was the dashing Lady Annabel Birley (now Lady Annabel Goldsmith), who had given her name to the West End club Annabel's.

Londonderry had also gained himself a moment of minor notoriety in 1957 when he associated himself with criticisms of the monarchy made by the second Lord Altrincham (the writer John Girth, who disclaimed his barony for life in 1963). In a letter to the *New Statesman* Londonderry had spoken of "toothpaste smiles" and "deplorable taste in clothes". Altrincham's criticisms had been of a considerably more serious nature. The London homes of both peers had been daubed with slogans by Empire Loyalists.

The Londonderry marriage seemed, then, a union of like and vital spirits. The Marchioness certainly demonstrated a penchant for fast driving and over a period of years had a

HIS HONOUR HENRY ELAM

His Honour Henry Elam, a judge for 23 years, died on August 13 aged 89. He was born on November 29, 1903.

BEFORE becoming in 1953 what was later known as a circuit judge, Henry Elam had practised at the criminal Bar for more than a quarter of a century. Although never perhaps destined for the High Court, he had a solid practice - which included appearing on behalf of the escaped Broadmoor child murderer, John Thomas Straffen, both at his trial and before the Court of Criminal Appeal in 1952.

He was a highly regarded advocate who could be a formidable cross-examiner but he also made something of a specialty out of the neglected art of pleas in mitigation. By the time he left the Bar for the Bench - after serving for three years as second senior Treasury counsel at the Old Bailey - he was one of the most experienced of juniors just as, by the time of his retirement in 1976, he was one of the most senior of circuit court judges.

Henry Elam, the son of Thomas Henry Elam of Sackville Street, London, WI, was educated at Charterhouse and at Lincoln College, Oxford. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1927 and his early professional years, before first going to the Old Bailey in 1937, were spent on the Western Circuit. In the second world war he served as deputy judge advocate for the Royal Air Force, also becoming in 1941 Recorder of Poole. During his last seven years at the Bar he served as Recorder of Exeter.

Elam's formal appointment

ON THIS DAY August 24 1920

The Bolshevik plans were premature. A counter-attack by the Poles under General Pilsudski overwhelmed the Red Army and a peace favourable to Poland was signed at Riga in October.

house had been taken for the Tcheresvitchalka (the extraordinary mission). It had a big garden, with a big cellar. The priest brought her complaint before Dzierzinski, and protested that he had assured him that he was not going to kill people. "No, but we must remove a person sometimes," was the reply.

The trio, who were to form Poland's first government of the new age, had a list of all the big shops in Warsaw, and had appointed "a committee to count war trophies"; in other words, a committee to distribute loot ... The Red Commissars ate little, and did not

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LAW 27, 28

Will control of the police be taken from the people?



ARTS 29-31

Matt Dillon is Mr Wonderful at Edinburgh



SPORT 32-36

Atherton brings England taste of success

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 35

THE TIMES

2

TUESDAY AUGUST 24 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert BallantyneBUSINESS
TODAY

DAWNED



The rising sun will set unless Japan reduces its vast trade surplus, according to the country's new trade minister
Page 22

ADVERSE

WPP will pay its first dividend since 1990 but tells shareholders that recovery remains delicate in America and Britain
Page 21

BETTER NAME

LLOYD'S
LOYDS OF LONDON

Lloyd's hopes it is making a better name for itself. The benefits of recent costs cuts are expected to be bigger than originally thought
Page 20

COMEBACK

Howard Hodgson, once the epitome of eighties entrepreneurship and one of the biggest funeral directors, has returned to the City
Page 21

THE POUND

US \$ 1.5047 (+0.0053)
German mark 2.5305 (+0.0016)
Exchange Index 81.4 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3042.0 (-15.6)
Dow Jones 3598.44 (-17.04)
Nikkei Avg 20414.14 (-13.12)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 5 7/8%
US Federal Funds 3%
3-month Treas Bills 2.99-2.98%
Long Bond 8.21%

CURRENCIES

New York: London: £\$ 1.5025* £\$ 1.5025
\$ DM 1.6850* \$ DM 1.6850
\$ SWK 2.2287* \$ SWK 2.2287
\$ Fr 5.8880* \$ Fr 5.8880
\$ Yen 103.25* \$ Yen 103.25
\$ SDR 1.0734 \$ ECU 1.3205
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (\$): AM 373.80 PM 373.10
Close 373.60-374.40
New York: 373.35-373.85*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 140.7 July (1.4%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Welsh Water clean-up to cost £1bn

By CARL MORTISHED

WELSH Water is planning to spend £1 billion on cleaning up coastline and rivers. That is £100 million more than originally budgeted and would add an average of 2 per cent to bills. The announcement of the work, to be done between 1995 and 2000, follows a survey of 1.2 million households that showed customers were ready to pay higher bills for cleaner water.

Welsh Water is the first of the ten privatised water companies to announce costly improvements after consulting customers. Anglian Water customers have also voted for higher bills, with 77 per cent prepared to pay more than 5 per cent extra in real terms for better water standards.

Dwr Cymru, Welsh Water's operating subsidiary, found that four fifths of the respondents to its survey were prepared to pay increases of 2 per cent above the inflation rate to achieve better standards. This appears to contradict recent criticism by Ofwat, the water regulator, of the rising prices.

Welsh Water is presenting its conclusions to Ian Byatt, director general of Ofwat, as part of its market plan. The company says the survey gives it a mandate from customers to spend more. The extra £100 million is earmarked for prevention of sewage overflows and for further improvements to coastlines.

The proposed increase in water bills comes in the wake of warnings from Ofwat that consumers will not tolerate continuing rises in the cost of water and sewerage. Mr Byatt has asked the environment secretary to reconsider the timing of the introduction of EC directives on water quality to lighten the financial burden on customers. He has also

■ Welsh Water is the first water company that plans to increase its spending after consulting customers to see if they are prepared to contemplate higher bills

expressed concern that market research on pricing by some water companies might overlook difficulties faced by low-income customers.

Welsh Water had previously said that its customers wanted low price rises because 40 per cent are receiving some form of social security benefits. "It is a foolish company that ignores that pressure," commented Graham Hawker, chief executive, when the group's results were announced in July. These revealed profits of £155 million for the year to March 31.

Nigel Annett, planning director at Dwr Cymru, pointed out that the proposed 2 per cent was less than the 6-7 per cent planned by the other privatised water companies. South West Water, which suffers most from EC clean-up directives because of its long coastline, proposes real increases of more than 8 per cent.

Mr Annett said: "Our job is to strike a balance: 80 per cent of our customers are prepared to pay an increase of over £7 and many are happy to pay £20 or £30. We have gone further than most companies in consulting our customers." Welsh Water was one of the few companies to attempt a mass survey; it received responses from 184,000 customers, or 15 per cent of the total. It also commissioned Mori to carry out a survey.

The average Welsh Water customer could be paying a bill of £250 in 1995. If the proposed charges are levied, bills will increase by about £7.50 a year. Ofwat will set the new "K" factors, the percent-

age rate at which prices can rise above the rate of inflation, next summer, but water companies are lobbying the regulator in the hope of concessions.

Ofwat considers capital costs, efficiency and dividends, as well as costs of compliance with environmental legislation. Stock market analysts have been saying that water companies may face a tougher regime from 1995 onwards, because Ofwat is likely to be working on a tougher pricing model based on nil growth in dividends and cost savings from greater efficiency. The companies have estimated their cost of capital, the rate at which they must finance capital investment, at 9 per cent but Ofwat is likely to work on a much lower figure because of the current low rates of interest.

Welsh Water has assets of about £7 billion on current costs, and low gearing because of cash it received on privatisation. But the new spending will require borrowing and the company reckons it will take on debt of £50 million a year to finance the capital programme.

Faced with the prospect of falling returns on the core water and sewerage businesses, the water companies have been diversifying in an effort to grow their dividends after 1995. After a frustrated attempt to takeover Swalec, the electricity company, in 1991, Welsh Water has focused on engineering as its route to unregulated profit. But the non-core businesses made a deficit of £3 million last year.



Brian Charles, of Welsh Water, at Llwyn Onn reservoir

Taiwan looks set to save deadlocked BAe jet deal

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Taiwan government appears poised to rescue the deadlocked deal under which British Aerospace will put its regional jet business into a joint venture with Taiwan Aerospace Corporation.

While John Cahill, BAe chairman, sought to allay Taiwan bankers' fears over financing at meetings in Taipei yesterday, Yang Shih-chien, vice-minister for economics, said the government would not rule out providing loan guarantees. BAe said that the talks were constructive and making progress.

But the price of additional state support will be increased transfer of technology to Taiwan and a commitment to develop a twin-jet plane, Mr Yang said.

Establishment of a joint company, Avro International Aerospace, to refinance BAe's regional jet business and establish simultaneous production in Taiwan is central to Mr Cahill's plan to rebuild the profitability of BAe and spread civil aviation overheads more widely.

BAe believes the Taiwan deal, agreed on January 19, will help to safeguard jobs at Woodford, Lancashire, where the RJ series of regional jets, developed from the BAe 146, are assembled.

It is also expected to bring BAe a cash payment of £120 million. But two deadlines for completion have come and gone while Taiwan Aerospace, which is 29 per cent owned by the Taiwan government, has struggled to allay concerns among private sector Taiwan bankers asked to back the project.

The difficulties have persisted in spite of the involvement of Taiwan's state-owned Chiao Tung Bank as lead banker in a consortium seeking to raise loans of up to £307 million for the project. The bank said last

week that BAe was unwilling to provide sufficient collateral for the loans. Mr Yang said that he was "cautiously optimistic" the deal would still go ahead, but that terms would be renegotiated. The January agreement is an old agreement now, so it must be revised," he said.

At BAe, hopes are rising that the deal could be completed this week. A spokesman said: "There seems to be progress. The talks are constructive." According to BAe in London, renegotiation over technology sharing and development of the twin-jet were unlikely to cause difficulties.

The company said that it was unable to provide a commitment to go ahead with production of a twin-jet variant, the RJ-X, because details of the project had not been settled. However, "what we will do is make sure we are fully signed up to participate in the feasibility study", the spokesman said. Avro International would have access to all necessary technology.

BAe appears relaxed about sharing its civil aviation technology with Taiwan. A spokesman said that skills in innovation and in achieving certification of new aircraft would ensure the company remained an attractive partner for aircraft projects.

The company believes that the joint venture with Taiwan will make it easier to sell aircraft in east Asian markets, especially mainland China, where much of the growth in aviation in the next decade is expected to occur.

Introduction of a twin-jet variant of the four-engine RJ aircraft would probably offer economies for operators. Like the existing aircraft, parts for the plane would be sourced worldwide.

Tempos, page 23

Europe's threatening traffic jam

After the closure of a Peugeot line in Coventry, lay-offs at Vauxhall, and grim warnings from Ford, we hardly needed the weekend DRI forecasts of sliding European car sales to tell us that we face something of a combined crisis in the motor industry. This cloud has been brewing up very visibly for years now, and storms that take a long time to build up are usually severe. Ford was issuing warnings of worldwide over-capacity of about 4 million units as long as four years ago.

So what's new? For one thing, the situation has got quite a lot worse. Ford's over-capacity estimate has now drifted up to 7 million units. What is more, it is clear that Europe is at the sharp end. It is not just that the current recession is now centred on Europe; it is also clear that the indigenous European industry has become steadily less competitive, and still seems to be getting worse.

This can be seen in the detail of the DRI forecast. Looking through the present downturn to 1996, this sees European output recovering from a trough of 11.4 million this year to 13.7 million in 1996 — a little over 300,000 up on 1992. But over the same period, the output of the European companies,

including US firms' subsidiaries, will be down. Growth will virtually all be down to the rising output of Japanese-owned factories in this country, where Toyota alone is expected to account for 230,000 of the total European growth, and Honda and Nissan also have expansion plans. This invasion also explains the DRI forecast that UK output will rise steadily through the period, by some 700,000, while Germany shrinks sharply. France a little, and Spain and Italy achieve rises of about 100,000 each. Forecast output in Japan itself, by the way, is seen at a virtual standstill over the five years; it is not only the Germans who are troubled by high costs.

Most telling, though, is the planning of the European companies themselves. BMW, perhaps the most consistently successful, is not only opening a factory in the US, but plans to ship a good part of its output back home. Fiat is already selling one new model made in Poland, and German companies are moving East too. These are some of the reasons why DRI

ANTHONY
HARRIS

real growth, as nobody will be much surprised to learn, is expected in South East Asia, up some 2 million (or 90 per cent), while the rest of the world struggles.

This does not mean that we will all be driving Hyundais, Kias and Protons — not yet, anyway. Most of the Asian growth is planned to meet exploding local demand. The "old" centres of America, Europe and Japan, which accounted for 29 million of the 34-million cars made in 1992, will still dominate, with 30 million out of a world total of 39 million, more than three-quarters of the total. But anyone who has been around for a few decades can remember that in the 1960s the Japanese industry was a bit of a joke, making imitative cars for a local market. Assuming that liberal trading rules, and the drive to a single European

market, survive these strains — and they would surely not survive if the motor industry outlook applied much more widely — British investors can view this prospect with some detachment. The British components industry, under Japanese tutelage, is winning a bigger share of the stagnant European market, and Rover is, for the moment, the one European firm managing to win rising sales in a shrinking market. The trade still looks in good shape.

Government ministers will still have their worries, though. The underlying pattern could hardly be clearer: the industry is working flat out to cut labour costs. Whether this is done by employing robots or by employing Poles and Russians, the impact on employment is much the same. Further, since lay-offs not only cut incomes directly, but frighten those still in employment into spending less, the motor industry's agency could easily make the recession worse than DRI forecasts at the moment. That has been the characteristic forecasting error throughout the West's crisis of credit deflation and growing low-cost competition: and nothing in the DRI picture suggests that anything important has changed.

Talent scout reaps \$15m at Tomkins

By GEORGE SIVELL, ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR

RICHARD Carr, 40, the director of international mergers and acquisitions at Tomkins, has received \$15.1 million cash in March this year after the company bought out a \$160,000 investment Mr Carr made in 1987.

Yesterday's annual report from Tomkins explains that the company sent Mr Carr to America in early 1987 to scout out suitable acquisitions. His incentive package demanded that he make the \$160,000 risk investment in return for being granted a 10 per cent interest in the growth of the assessed value of the businesses he identified that Tomkins went on to purchase.

The Tomkins purchases included Smith & Wesson, for \$112.5 million, Murray Ohio Manufacturing, for \$228 million, and Philips Industries, for \$550 million. Tomkins would have required shareholder approval and submitted a draft circular to the Stock

Exchange for the buyout from Mr Carr.

However, the takeover of RHM and the associated rights issue so increased the size of Tomkins that shareholder approval was no longer deemed necessary by the Stock Exchange, so long as the transaction was disclosed in the annual report.

Tomkins says that the acquired American businesses that Mr Carr worked on had sales in the year to May 2, 1992, of \$1,717 million, net assets of \$423.8 million and net income of \$75.2 million.

The annual report also discloses that the bonus paid to Greg Hutchings, 46, chief executive of Tomkins, shrank from £667,000 to £651,000 in the past year, although, thanks to a salary increase, from £503,000 to £585,000, his pay rose from £1.17 million to £1.24 million. Last year, however, he drew less than £1 million of his entitlement.

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Balladur: meeting Kohl

Nevertheless, some economists continue to believe that the Bundesbank may wait until September before it cuts rates again. This would allow the bank to see whether the recent pick-up in private sector credit is indeed a blip and also allows the disturbing effects of heavy foreign exchange intervention, which tends to swell the M3 money supply, to come to an end.

Tempus, page 23

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Free trade treaty runs into trouble on Capitol Hill

In spite of supplementary agreements, Nafta faces the risk of being ditched by Congress at its ratification stage, says Wolfgang Münchau

Free trade zealots are having a bad time because one of their pet projects, the North American Free Trade Agreement, is "in trouble", as they say on Capitol Hill, which means it is in acute danger of being dumped at the ratification stage.

This month, the governments of the United States, Canada and Mexico agreed on a supplementary deal to fill some of the blatant gaps in the original Nafta treaty. One of the gaps related to enforcement, as America expects that Mexicans, unless threatened at gunpoint, would invariably cheat on issues such as workers' rights and the environment. But these agreements have failed to impress Nafta's opponents in Congress, which means that the treaty is still "in trouble".

President Clinton supports the treaty, as does Senator Robert Dole, his chief opponent, and the *Wall Street Journal*, normally a fierce critic of whatever the president does or says. In a stinging editorial last week, headlined "Nafta before Health", the paper highlighted the frustration felt among Nafta supporters when it attacked Mr Clinton, not for his position on the issue, but for his apparent failure to defend Nafta with the vigour it deserves.

The purpose of Nafta is to create a free-trade zone of about 360 million people, encompassing half of the American continent, and one which is open to new members. The trouble with Nafta is, in many ways, similar to some of the adjustment processes within the European Community, in that high and low wage areas come together, giving rise to all sorts of economic distortions.

Nafta opponents, among them many Congressional representatives from southern states, fear that jobs would migrate south over the Rio Grande, as wage levels in Mexico are only 15 per cent of what they are in the US. Whether this is good or bad depends on whether one receives or pays these wages, but it does not constitute a sufficient argument against Nafta, since US companies are already able to move south, with or without Nafta.

Opinion among economists on the labour market impact vary enormously. The classical international economists believe that free trade is good in every circumstance, and that the greater the income and wealth differentials between the areas to be merged, the greater the economic benefits. Since the differentials are enormous in this case, Nafta is beneficial.

But the world rarely works according to the way economists predict. A more interesting model — which like the rest of them could also be flawed — was provided by Clark Reynolds, professor of economics at Stanford University, who combines a macroeconomic and microeconomic approach. His model suggests: "The winners from integration are low-skilled labour



Robert Dole, who usually opposes the president, supports the treaty

in Mexico, and high-skilled labour and capital in the United States. The losers are low-skilled labour in the United States and there is a question mark about capital in Mexico."

This alone does not answer the question of whether Nafta is right or wrong: driving low-skilled labour out of one's country could even be a case of sound economics. If, for example, it were substituted with high-skilled labour.

There is also the catastrophic model — beloved by pessimists — one where every side loses, no matter what happens. In this model, wages, employment levels and productivity will decline in the US, while Mexico will suffer from increased competition from the north.

Common sense, which may be as unreliable a guide to the future as the above models, would suggest that the net effect on the US cannot be all that dramatic, because trade between the

countries is already fairly liberalised; because American companies can already move their factories to Mexico; and because the US last year actually ran a trade surplus with Mexico of \$5.4 billion. If one opens the border just a little bit more, can it really have such a drastic negative effect, as the opponents fear? Will we really hear the "sucking sound" of jobs moving south, as Ross Perot claims?

A gut-level assessment would suggest probably not, but US labour unions are, nevertheless, in a state of heightened alarm. A spokesman for the AFL-CIO, America's equivalent of the TUC, said that Nafta was the source of "rather huge disagreement" with Mr Clinton, whom they otherwise support. William Bywater, president of the Electrical Workers union said: "Anybody that votes for this agreement, we're going to

go out to defeat. Period." A more eloquent formulation of the opponents' case came from Richard Rothstein, a research associate at the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, who took a closer look at the income distribution in Mexico, which is similar to that in the US during the Depression in the 1930s. He noted that Mexican wages have fallen 40 to 50 per cent in the past decade, the result of structural adjustment policies orchestrated by the International Monetary Fund. As a result, wages in Mexico account for only 15 per cent of economic output, compared with 55 per cent in the US. He concludes: "It is inconceivable that a democratic society can be developed in Mexico with the kind of income distribution existing today."

Another worry about Nafta is the possibility of cheating, since Mexican standards of enforcement are not comparable to those in the US. William Doherty, executive director of the AFL-CIO, estimates that already close to half a million American jobs have been lost to Mexico.

He said: "Working conditions near the border are disgraceful. We suspect that some of the [Mexican] directors hire under-age workers, especially women, in violation of International Labour Organisation standards. They allegedly do not pay Mexican minimum wages and do not follow Mexican or American environmental regulations. For example, some furniture stripping companies from California have moved to Tijuana so they can use an acid that is illegal in the US."

This is an extreme case, but highlights a more general worry, one which even the recent side agreement failed to eradicate. Moreover, since all these developments have already happened, they can hardly be used as an argument against Nafta as such.

In many respects, America is undergoing a debate about economic integration similar in principle to the one that has raged in Europe, although not quite on the same scale. One of the lessons from economic integration in Europe has been that simple free-trade zones, such as the European Free Trade Area, do not work well in the long run because of their lack of enforcement provisions.

Nafta is in many ways similar to Efta. In spite of its many critics and setbacks, the EC has proved more viable than Efta, precisely because its approach to economic integration encompasses not only trade but also economic adjustment in the wider sense, and because it has a legal structure to adjudicate in disputes between members. Nafta has none of those and, if implemented, promises to be very messy.

Perhaps Ernest Hollings, Democratic chairman of the Senate commerce committee, is right, although perhaps for the wrong reason, when he suggests dumping Nafta and replacing it with a genuine North American Common Market on the lines of the EC, and to apply equally stringent criteria to membership. There is an element of a spoiling tactic in his proposal. But that should not detract from its intrinsic merits. A genuine common market, cemented by institutions with teeth, will ultimately prove more stable than a flimsy free trade zone. The point is that even free trade fundamentalists have cause to reject Nafta.

TEMPUS

Taipei travails

THE market is being remarkably relaxed about British Aerospace's protracted wrangling with the Taiwan Aerospace Corporation. Last year, the very survival of the group appeared to hang on its search for a partner for its loss-making regional jet business. While doubts and delays have gathered about Avro in the past three months, BAE shares have outperformed the market by more than a quarter.

Complete failure of the talks would leave BAE with the unpleasant and costly task of closing the business or continuing to support losses, while looking for another joint venture partner. Either option would be covered by existing provisions, but would considerably worsen the group's cash position, pushing gearing up as high as 40 per cent by the end of the year. Investors appreciate, however, that

BAE is financially far more robust than last autumn. The sale of the corporate jets business to Raytheon, in May, gained BAE £250 million, almost twice as much as it stands to gain from Avro. New banking facilities, linked to interest cover rather than net worth, have relieved pressure on the group's balance sheet. John Cahill will still be keen to settle the Avro joint venture, since he has other tasks to attend to. BAE needs to find another joint venture partner for its Jetstream business at Prestwick, which is also making unacceptable losses. There is further portfolio tidying to be done, such as the sale of the 30 per cent stake in Hutchison Telecom. Longer-term, there is the future of Rover to consider. With so much on the agenda, Mr Cahill cannot afford to return from Taipei empty-handed.

WPP Group

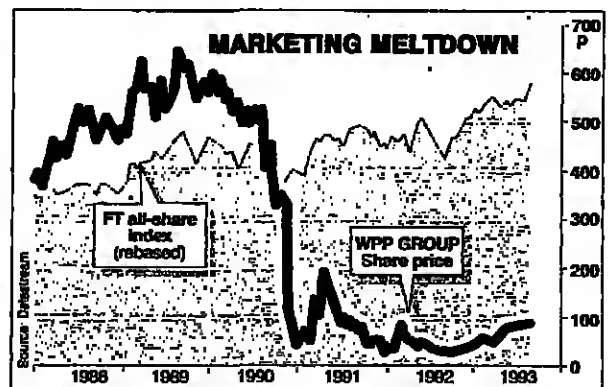
THE market's surprise at the apparent gloom shrouding WPP Group's interim statement may have been overdone. It takes a foolhardy chief executive to call the end of the recession after so many false dawns, and Martin Sorrell is still a cautious accountant at heart.

The interim figures showed growth in revenues, margin improvement at a time when the traffic at archival Saatchi & Saatchi is apparently in the opposite direction, a fall in debts helped by this year's rights issue and a resumed dividend payment. But the rise in revenues, the most important of these, was uneven.

In America, the source of half the business, they rose 9 per cent. In continental Europe, they were largely flat. In Britain, they fell more

than 3 per cent. Asia Pacific and Latin American growth is still healthy but slowing. While WPP can remain confident that the market has turned in Britain and across the Atlantic, the rest of Europe remains uncertain. There seems no reason why the margins should not return eventually to the 10 per cent seen three years ago, but

debt remains high and is unlikely to be dented much by the eventual sale of non-core US agency Scali McCabe Sloves, for which the market has long been waiting. Although less tied to life at a snail's pace than Saatchi, WPP seems doomed to a few more lean years and the shares look unlikely to outperform.



Hoskins Brewery

WHEN Howard Hodgson buys into a company and promises to make acquisitions, shareholders should be prepared to be peppered with circulars through their letter boxes. The former undertaker made more than 100 acquisitions in the nine years that he ran Hodgson Holdings as a public company, a buying spree funded by all-too-regular equity issues. The strain on Hodgson's balance sheet from these acquisitions became all too evident when the group was forced to value the brand names of its undertakers as intangible assets.

Owning nothing more than a tiny brewery and £800,000 in cash, Hoskins is the perfect shell company, made available to outside investors by its long-standing boardroom row. Acquisitions and a heavy rights issue will doubtless follow.

Mr Hodgson's plans to convert Hoskins into an acquisition-led conglomerate look curiously out of touch with new accounting practices and stock market fash-

ion. The values of manufacturing businesses are now ruinously expensive while the ASB's upcoming deal on acquisition provisions will soon prevent companies from shielding their profits from the heavy cost of integrating and rationalising their purchases.

Following the failure of Prontac, Mr Hodgson's business services franchise company, it must be questionable whether he is skilled at running anything other than a funeral company, far less the engineering conglomerate of his dreams. For now, Hoskins is a blank piece of paper, and it will not take Mr Hodgson long to make his own particular, vivid mark on it.

Tour operators

OH! To be out of England in a rainy August. According to high street travel agents, that has been the cry from thousands of customers who responded to their discounting of next year's Mediterranean holidays. Thomson, the leading tour operator, has sold 250,000 holidays for 1994 worth some £80 million and

Lunn Poly has given away £3 million in discounts on 80,000 holidays.

Bargains from tour operators and travel agents need to be treated with scepticism: sales mean deposits collected which have a real cash flow value to the companies over a year. And the mix of holidays has changed: more self-catering implies less cost to the operators.

Thomas Cook kicked off the discounting war with a 10 per cent offer and was swiftly followed by rivals Pickfords and Lunn Poly. But the spectacle of discounts just as the industry is reporting some sign of recovery should be read with trepidation. Cash earns less these days and the benefits of money upfront will not compensate fully for tighter margins. Discounting is an easy but short-term route to building market share and the larger companies will be trying to knock out smaller competitors. That and the fiasco surrounding the Owners Abroad profit forecast, should confirm to all but the most glib that earnings from the holiday business are of less than blue chip quality.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

M&S flavour of the quarter

WE LOVE Marks and Spencer and hate British Rail. So it would seem from the latest analysis of UK company press coverage, which has M&S as the most favourably reported company in the second quarter of this year. M&S was the best regarded company in 1992, but this is the first time it has topped the list in a single quarter. BR was the worst regarded company with minus 1,149 points, according to *The Presswatch Quarterly*. Sharing the glory with M&S were Argill, British Aerospace, Virgin and Vodafone. Joining BR in the bottom were Barclays, Tottenham Hotspur, Invesco MIM and Group 4 — making its debut with minus 544 points. Banks were again the most unfavourably regarded sector, and transport, accounts, life insurance and building societies were all out of favour. British Airways showed the best improvement, recovering from minus 3,653 to minus 355. Tottenham Hotspur suffered the steepest fall — reflecting the war of words between Alan Sugar and Terry Venables.

History driven

A NEW, or nearly new, type of black taxi cab should be on the streets of London in January. Asquith Motor Carriage, a replica car company based near Braintree, Essex, expects to obtain approval from the Metropolitan Police Public Carriage Office for its version of a black cab, not seen since the thirties. The Jones Bodied Low Loader Austin, loosely



based on a 1932 model, will look the part, with a long bonnet and wire wheels. "We're already taking advance orders," says Crispin Reed, managing director and founder of Asquith, which makes replica delivery vans for Austin Reed and other West End stores and has a number of clients in Japan. At just under £30,000, the cab will cost £8,000 to £9,000 more than the usual variety, and will probably be used for weddings and other private functions. Reed hopes to sell about 20 a year — or a per cent of present annual production.

Lintrend wraps

NORTHERN Ireland may be about to corner the market in traditional Arab garments. Lintrend, an Ulster textile company, has landed an initial £1.8 million order to supply head-dresses to Saudi Arabia and three Gulf emirates. The attraction is a new cotton fabric which, according

to the blurb, "makes life easier for Arab women because it combines the cool comfort of natural fibres with the machine-washable and non-iron characteristics of synthetics." Lintrend has spent ten years on its design, which promises to displace the usual polyester microfibre and cotton mixtures in a market dominated by the Japanese.

Hull's challenge

SOPHIE Hull, former head of corporate communications at Hill Samuel, the much-troubled merchant bank, has broken off an extended honeymoon to tackle a new challenge. Hull, a veteran of various financial PR skirmishes over the years, starts today as director of corporate communications at Gartmore Investment Management, the fund management arm of Banque Indosuez. Gartmore is due to be listed on the stock market in late autumn and one of Hull's early tasks will

be to find an external PR agency to handle the float. Hull was made redundant by Hill Samuel at the start of the year — just before her wedding. She handled many tricky news issues at her old firm and was an enthusiastic supporter of the polo team.

VICTORY in a key sales battle to supply a high speed train system to Korea caused great delight at the Rugby headquarters of GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French electrical engineering group. But an unfortunate error crept into the press release. Far from outpacing its rivals — the 250 kilometres per hour German ICE train and the 275 kph Japanese Shinkansen — GEC Alsthom's Korean TGV was promised to run at speeds of up to... just 30 kph. "It should be 300" says Douglas Gadd, the company's UK chairman, before ordering a rapid correction.

JON ASHWORTH

Abbey: suitable case for treatment?

From Mr R. Keith Brian Sir, Mr Abbey National, the financial services experts to whom thousands of shareholders and customers have entrusted their money, bought estate agencies at the top of the market and is selling them at the bottom, at a loss of £250 million.

Could this be the same Abbey National that defaces our high streets with crude shop fascias, screaming its name at us in foot-high plastic letters, on a shiny white plastic background? As the founder of

More leg room means more airline passengers

From Mr R. N. Baird Sir, You report (August 19) an overcapacity on the most popular airline routes equivalent to 400 jumbo jets flying empty across the Atlantic each day. Recently, you also reported the ex-secretary general of the United Nations justifying business and first class travel for his employees on the grounds that economy is noisy and crowded. Might not these

two comments be linked? And might the airlines consider the potentially beneficial effects on occupancy levels of providing a little more space at the back of the aircraft for each passenger?

Yours faithfully,
R. N. BAIRD,
23 Old Sneyd Park,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol.

Europe, politics and unemployment

From Mr Mario Dunn Sir, Anatole Kaletsky is unconvincing when he states that the UK's unemployment problem is a consequence of membership of the ERM ("Labour party remains the last bastion of monetarism", August 19). The UK has suffered unemployment levels since the late 1970s — long before Chancellor Major took the UK into the banded exchange.

It is an irony then that he dismisses any form of effective government intervention in the economy and tries to distinguish between the *laissez-faire* economics of Thatcher-

ism (bad) and the policies of Prime Minister Major (good). Let us face it, after 14 years neither have a very good record on economic growth or employment. He should not then blame Europe for our own deep rooted problems. Yours faithfully,
MARIO DUNN,
Flat 7,
233 Balham High Road,
SW17.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of *The Times* can be sent by fax to 071-782 5112

NI change could aid pension reform

From Mr David Lindsay Sir, What's in a name? Everything, when what is simply a contribution wholly hypothesized to compensating for loss of pay arising from illness, disability, unemployment or retirement gets called a "tax" (Anthony Harris, August 17).

Lifting the ceiling on pay subject to NIC would make a lot of sense, in equity, and in terms of strengthening the NI Fund (along with the NIC rate increase due next year) to meet the demand on it that equalising the pension age for the basic state pension at 60 — the only sensible course today — will make. The upside to employers will be relief of part of the overall pension burden

at comparatively small cost. Yours faithfully,
DAVID LINDSAY
(Legal Adviser, Campaign for Equal State Pension Ages),
36 Orchard Coombe,
Whitchurch Hill, Reading.

Breakdown in time

From Hilary Taylor Sir, I refused to pay my A.A. subscription by direct debit. My reminder "it's almost time to renew your membership" arrived on June 16th. My membership expires on August 31st. Yours faithfully,
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A recent initiative is helping students to gain on-job experience. Frances Gibb reports



Helen Lewer achieved a triumph in a real tribunal. The case was part of her course to qualify for the Bar at the Inns of Court School of Law

Bar trainees go live

Mr X was delighted when he won nearly £8,500 compensation after an industrial tribunal ruled that he had been unfairly dismissed from his job as a maintenance assistant with an accounting firm. He had fallen out with his bosses over a new policy. The tribunal ruled that the man was partly to blame for not accepting the new rules but that the company did not act reasonably in all the circumstances.

For any dismissed employee, the finding would be a triumph. But in this case, victory was all the sweeter: he was represented by a law student who fought the dismissal as part of her training for the Bar.

Last week, Helen Lewer heard that she had passed the finals at the end of the Bar's one-year vocational course. She is one of a small group of students who, for the first time in England, have taken on real cases and been assessed on them in order to qualify at the Inns of Court School of Law.

Ms Lewer said: "I found it the most useful part of the course because I was dealing with clients and solicitors. There's only so much you can do in role-playing with colleagues — it was invaluable. I could put the theory I learned on the course into practice; and then feed back into the course what I drew from the real-life experience."

Although on-job training for law students is common in America and elsewhere, it is rare in Britain. One or two law-degree courses have involved "live" work, but surprisingly not until now — the Bar vocational course itself. Nigel Farnham, the course coordinator at the Council of Legal Education (CLE), which runs the Bar finals course, says: "All the practical work we do is simulated. We thought it would be good for students to have the experience of doing real-life work to put into a practical context all the different skills we teach, such as legal research and fact management."

Law students have always done voluntary work at a referral unit known as the Bar's Free Representation Unit (FRU), which takes on tribu-

nal cases sent by law centres and advice bureaux and acts for people without charge. The CLE decided to build on this and devised a structured option for students in their third term, involving work at the unit and being assessed on what they did.

For the first time this summer, 24 students chose the FRU option and spent anything from 50 to 100 hours on cases. They chose one case to write up and present for assessment. Mr Duncan said: "One of the things we tried to assess was the quality of their work on the case, how effective they were in discovering documents and in seeking further particulars, and obviously their advice to the client."

Students are not let loose without some training. They had attended two courses on tribunals, then done "seconding" — working alongside an experienced FRU worker, visiting a tribunal, and writing an opinion on a case. After that, they were free to work as a FRU representative in the normal way, although if they decided to choose a case for assessment, the client's permission was sought.

It was this — their effective case management in the interests of the client — on which they were marked. For Ms Lewer, it was "nervewracking". "But the FRU staff were always on hand to help and there was plenty of reference material," she added. The students' case files were double-marked and all but two students passed.

Now there are plans to expand the scheme: next year it will be offered to 36 students. The Bar Council, meanwhile, is seeking to expand the work of the other FRUs themselves. John Rowe QC, Bar chairman, wants to see more barristers — not just young ones — taking on FRU cases. The unit

has recently started a drive to encourage barristers to offer their services at a time when the numbers of tribunal cases handled by the unit are rising fast. This year the unit predicts it will have a record 2,400 clients on its files, 25 per cent more than last year.

Under the scheme, each set of chambers in London and the South East will be asked to take on cases: a full-time solicitor will have handled all preparatory work. Mr Rowe wants to develop units elsewhere. Manchester, Liverpool and Swansea already have them and there are plans to cover tribunals in the Home Counties. The development could be crucial to the Bar's training: the future is pointing the way to a regionalisation of this training, with the CLE licensing institutions offering the final course at centres around the country. At present, it is available only in London.

With the growing emphasis on practical training for the Bar, regional training centres could do up with local FRU units, giving students vital on-the-job training, as well plugging a gap in legal services to the public.

community orders, probation or bending over" or "if an offender has committed a really serious crime it may be the only answer is to put him in cold storage".

As a result of this sentencing policy, it is probably accurate for another student to state that "it is unusual for a defendant to appeal for harsher charges", and perhaps it is not surprising to learn that "96.5 per cent of the population are in prison" (96.5 per 100,000 population is the correct figure).

The problems with the appeal system are summed up simply... "the appeal system can be seen as foolish and in need of reform". The final word, however, must go to the student who said: "There have been some funny decisions in the past."

'We thought students should have experience of real-life work'

'Guilty until proven otherwise'

missing 1 per cent may explain the statement that "three magistrates sit in court, one man, one woman and one other".

The argument for retaining the defendant's right to choose jury trial is strengthened by one student's variation of the presumption that a defendant "is guilty unless proven otherwise" and by the fact that "the magistrates will ask the defendant how he pleads; if it is guilty, they will sentence him; if it is not guilty, they will convict him". This at least seems to accord with the notion that "when somebody's broken the law and there is sufficient evidence, they shouldn't

have the chance to give their side of the story; they should be punished there and then".

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Indeed the defendant had better be aware of what potential sentences await him: according to one student, "magistrates can decide on various forms of sentencing, he is custodial."

THE recent government white paper, *Police Reform — A Police Service for the Twenty-First Century*, will drastically change the face of British policing if put into full effect.

The white paper's main emphasis is on efficiency and cost. One set of issues that has aroused particular concern is the proposed reforms of the structure of the police authorities.

Although the size of police authorities varies throughout the country, from about six people to more than 40, the proportion of councillors and magistrates within them is the same. Derbyshire, for instance, has a 21-member authority comprising 14 county councillors (two thirds) and seven magistrates (one third).

First, the white paper proposes that all the authorities should consist of 16 members. This could be beneficial in terms of trimming authorities that are particularly cumbersome. However, it is the

proposed composition of the authorities which is causing concern. The government intends that the 16 members of police authorities should comprise eight councillors, three magistrates and five people appointed directly by the home secretary. This means that half of the membership will be non-elected. However, the white paper goes even further and suggests that the home secretary may even have the power to appoint the chairperson of every police authority. This will give such a person considerable advantages, including the casting vote.

The proposals do not end there. The white paper suggests four ways in which councillors may be chosen to serve on police authorities. Two of them basically state

that the home secretary may either require local authorities to change any of their nominees or even select them himself. As for magistrates to sit on the authorities, they could be chosen by new selection panels.

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What powers does the home secretary have now? He may sack a chief constable on efficiency grounds following

an investigation even though a police authority may disagree. He can block the appointment of any chief constable, deputy or assistant chief constable. He can withhold about 50 per cent of the central government grant to any police force, request a report on policing matters from any chief constable, and can amalgamate police forces. He is also responsible for setting the overall conditions of service and has powers over the supply of central services such as riot control equipment. These powers are considered by many to be more than adequate to fulfil any central government commitment to law and order within traditional British policing.

One of the best tenets of the present system is the balance between central government

power and local accountability. Under the proposed reforms the checks and balances at local level will be in jeopardy. It is not so much the power that police authorities possess that makes them so important, as the power that they deny central government from having over the police.

It has been said that many aspects of the government's white paper point towards more centralised control of the police. The proposed reforms of the police authorities alone may well distance ordinary people more from a service that has always been an integral part of our society. Local police authorities have not always made the best decisions, but surely it is better to maintain some semblance of the existing checks and balances, to ensure that no single aspect of our constitution has the power to make all the mistakes.

● The author is a law lecturer at the University of Derby.

Most Worshipful Guilds of Men

If you're female, you're not wanted in most livery companies

Seventy-five years ago, suffragettes were celebrating victory. With the enactment of the Representation of the People Act 1918, votes for women had become a reality, albeit one not completed for ten more years. But one public office has held out against over a century of activism for formal equality for women. The Corporation of the City of London is a local authority with a multi-million-pound annual budget. Its titular head is the Lord Mayor of London, who holds the most famous local government office in the country.

He is elected not by the members of the council as in other local authorities, but by the 25,000 full members of the 100 livery companies.

The companies are not private clubs. They have great wealth, imposing buildings and royal charters. And many retain a large influence on the practice of their trades. All have royal charters. A mixture of people involved in particular trades, businessmen, lawyers and City men belong to the guilds.

Some now admit women and Dame Mary Donaldson was elected the first female Lord Mayor in 1985.

Most, however, do not. Women whose interest in a livery company is motivated by involvement in the relevant trade are, therefore, effectively disenfranchised if it happens that their trade's company does not admit women. A woman involved in fruit wholesaling, for instance, could not until very recently join the Worshipful Company of Fruiteers (more than half of whose members are involved in the fruit trade), and simply would not want to join the Farriers' or Fishmongers'.

But is the exclusion of women, from such com-

panies as Pewterers or Saddlers, legal? A year after the Representation of the People Act, a less celebrated measure was passed. The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919 was designed to remove any disqualifications preventing women from exercising public functions and engaging in the professions.

Section 1 of the Act provides that "a person shall not be disqualified by sex... amendment, which had, it was said, been asked for by the Faculty of Actuaries in Edinburgh. The point was to "ensure the admission of women to certain incorporated professional associations".

Are the companies professional associations? They no longer have the power for the (inclination) to exclude non-members from practising the trade. Nevertheless, they are often deeply involved in the development of the trade and have close links with vocational training. Some even retain a statutory consumer-protection role. There is no suggestion that they do these things in a discriminatory way. Yet a woman involved in the relevant trade may justifiably feel that non-admission disqualifies her from taking a full part in the wider life of her trade.

Further, a potential woman recruit involved in a particular trade might thereby be prevented from exercising a "public function" — the election of the Lord Mayor.

The disqualification may seem indirect, but then so too are other targets of the Act. There was no sex

disqualification for the appointment of judges, for instance, but Lord Birkenhead, when he was Lord Chancellor, made it clear in his speech on the second reading in 1919 that the removal of the prohibition of women barristers was partly motivated by the desire to allow the appointment of women to the judiciary. How slowly things change.

Voluntary reform would bring the companies within the letter of the law as well as the spirit of the age. It might also help to maintain their relevance, as more and more women come into their traditional trades.

RICHARD PERCIVAL
● The author is a pupil barrister.



Livery company leaders on parade

No place like home

THE government's plans to criminalise squatting, which may be included in the Queen's Speech this autumn, are likely to have a disproportionate impact on young people, according to figures from a charity for the homeless.

Centrepoint Soho, of London, says that 71 per cent of squatters are under 18, and that 46 per cent have recently left council care, despite duties imposed on local authorities by the Children Act to look after young people until the age of 21. More than 70 per cent of those surveyed said they had nowhere else to go.

I'll thue, Mummy

WITH the rise in child-centred legal actions, the Children's Legal Centre has brought out *Your Say in Court*, a new guide for children and young people. Since the Children Act 1989 came into force in October 1991, the centre has been contacted in about 40 cases by children, young people and adults over matters in which there is the possibility of their starting court proceedings.

INNS AND OUTS

Nicola Wyld, the author, says that the book is not intended to incite children to legal action against their parents. Court proceedings

failing his Part 1 professional examinations early last year. Mr Allen claims that he was dismissed without any warning about his exam performance and despite the fact that his failure was not a "bad fail", as accountancy student training contracts require. The contracts have not been put to the test in court before. Many dismissed trainees may be awaiting the outcome of the case with interest. Ernst & Young would not comment.

Timely shock

IS the citizen's charter finally penetrating the recesses of the courts? For the first time, the county courts are not closing early in August at 2pm, but staying open until — wait for it — 4pm. Not exactly late by most standards, but a start.

The Lord Chancellor's department is certainly putting a positive gloss on this radical change: in the spirit of the citizen's and courts' charters, it says, it has been decided the county courts should remain open "for the full working day throughout the year, providing an improved service to the public". Next target: late sittings.

Baby change

WOMEN will obtain better maternity leave soon under the provisions of the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993. At present, the law gives 29 weeks' leave, but only for women with more than two years' continuous service.

When the Act comes into force, by October 1994 at the latest, all women will be entitled to 14 weeks' maternity leave in their first two years of employment, as long as they comply with simple rules.

Geoffrey Jones, an employment lawyer with Cartwrights, a firm of Bristol solicitors, said that the new rights would be "of major benefit to many female employees but will have cost and organisational implications for all employers".

Ian Hunter's article on the Act last week stated that claims for dismissal had to be brought within six months of the date of dismissal. The period is, in fact, six years.

SCRIVENOR

Teenagers have a very strange view of the legal system, judging by some A-level answers

Last week, A-level results were published. Perhaps the recent Royal Commission on Criminal Justice should have taken evidence from some of the students studying law at A-level.

A look at some of their comments in this summer's examinations shows the need for reform of the criminal justice system in England and Wales as viewed by the student. We are told that "magistrates must be between 18 and 70 years old and anyone with a criminal record", thus, apparently, automatically qualifying villains to become magistrates.

Another candidate disagreed, saying magistrates "aren't usually appointed between the age of 30, so any childish habits will no longer exist", and another said that "a JP may be a butcher, baker or candlestick-maker with no legal training".

It was even more surprising to learn that "50 per cent of magistrates are men and 49 per cent are women". The

'Guilty until proven otherwise'

missing 1 per cent may explain the statement that "three magistrates sit in court, one man, one woman and one other".

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have the chance to give their side of the story; they should be punished there and then".

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Who should police the police?

The proposed reforms raise serious questions about who exercises control, says Leonard Jason-Lloyd

proposed composition of the authorities which is causing concern. The government intends that the 16 members of police authorities should comprise eight councillors, three magistrates and five people appointed directly by the home secretary. This means that half of the membership will be non-elected. However, the white paper goes even further and suggests that the home secretary may even have the power to appoint the chairperson of every police authority. This will give such a person considerable advantages, including the casting vote.

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● The author is a law lecturer at the University of Derby.



More central control could set the police further apart

Image in need of a face-lift

The Bar remains steeped in tradition and still has far to go to be genuinely accessible to aspiring lawyers, says

Joanna Kessel, who has just qualified

It was Friday the 13th. For those of us haunted by superstition, a worse day could not have been chosen. The Bar school finals results for 1992-93 were to be posted on the notice board in Gray's Inn. Years of hard work and a £10,000 debt were about to meet destiny.

Only those who had passed would be listed. But the surprise pleasure of finding my name among the successful on the notice board list was taken away when the postman delivered my future at 9am on that day, oblivious to the significance of the envelope's contents.

I pulled out the piece of paper that revealed the good news: I had been graded "competent". Those who had done better were considered "very competent" or "outstanding".

I was unperturbed by my grading — I had passed and that was all that mattered. The profession steeped in history, tradition, wigs and the old school tie network had welcomed me to join its ranks. I yelped with relief. I was a barrister.

The Bar has come a long way over the past 30 years. In those days it was barely conceivable that somebody with my state-school background could walk into the arms of a profession which has been vehemently criticised for its nepotism and male dominance. And though the Bar Council can pat itself on the back for the healthy intake of women and people from ethnic minority groups over the past few years, statistics do not solve the underlying and deeply entrenched problems.

It seems that tradition remains impenetrable. Since time immemorial fledgling barristers have ritually had to keep eight dining terms — at three dinners a term — at one of the four Inns of Court of which he or she must be a member, before being called to the Bar. That has meant eating 24 mediocre dinners in formal Hall, which enables

students to meet their peers and their seniors, engage in stimulating conversation and learn to understand what the Bar is all about. For the significant number of people studying outside London, the extra expense of dining merely adds to their debt.

At my first few dinners I felt bored, awkward and extremely cynical. But as I began to meet people, the pomp and ceremony became less of a strain and I have to admit that finally I quite enjoyed the experience.

Two dozen dinners under the belt, I felt comfortable in my surroundings and accepting of the Bar. But I felt that 24 dinners was beyond my call of duty. Recently beyond my call of duty. Recently beyond my call of duty.

I admit that I finally enjoyed the Hall dinners

What if you eat all your dinners and then fail the Bar school finals? At about £7 a meal, that is a sum not to be sneered at, but in comparison with the huge debts accumulated by most law students, it is insignificant. Those who already have a law degree need find only about £10,000 to fund themselves through one year at Bar school, local authority awards being bonoured more in the breach than the observance. This total includes fees and living expenses.

Those with any other degree need to double that figure in order first to complete the one-year law conversion course, the Common Professional Examination. As the recession throws more and more graduates into a quandary, many are flocking to the legal profession and making the £20,000 investment in the hope of securing a brighter future.

However, the results show that of 1,037 students taken on by the Council of Legal Education this year, only 867 passed the course; and, to judge from last year's statistics, of that number only about 60 per cent will secure full pupillage (the requisite 12-month apprenticeship, only half of which



Students visit a law fair in London for leads on employment, but the search may be a difficult one

is funded), and a meagre 46 per cent can be expected to obtain tenancy (be taken on in a set of chambers) in a year's time.

So what needs to change? The Bar appears to be more and more accessible but the filtering process of pupillage and tenancy ensures that the vast majority of the survivors still come from the same old Oxford or Cambridge, male and European-origin, clan — unless they are tough and extremely persevering. On a mixed dining night during

my studies I made the acquaintance of Geoffrey Howe, the former Cabinet minister. In conversation with him, I explained the various changes I would like to see made at the Bar.

He asked how I proposed to achieve these aims. I had opened my mouth to answer when the head porter struck the floor three times with his staff. The benchers were ready to move into Hall to eat and my response fell on deaf ears. My proposals were, however, that law students' fees should be funded right through the final

years of qualification, as are medical students. They should not be admitted to Bar school without first obtaining pupillage, which would avoid the demoralisation of either having qualified but not being able to practise or of ending up with an extremely red bank balance and nothing to show for it.

If these changes were made, perhaps many more state, red-brick university educated people would be able to carve a niche for themselves at the Bar and change the establishment image that still desperately needs a face-lift.

Trapped in a vicious circle

Many graduates who want to train as solicitors have been caught out by cutbacks and a changing market

Many law and non-law graduates are now applying for trainee solicitor contracts, which they hope to start in September 1995. The practice of recruiting trainees two years in advance has grown. But many graduates who have passed their law finals have yet to secure a training contract.

Some simply did not realise that they needed to apply so early; others, me included, were in a Catch-22 situation. The number of people applying for places at law school vastly outweighed the number of places available. When I applied for articles at the end of my second university year, I did not then have a secure place on the law 5-year course. This was highlighted during the interviews I had: none of the firms I saw would risk offering me a contract.

I was eventually offered a place at Chester in September 1990 in an evening class set up to reduce the long waiting list. My success coincided with the recession. For the first time in memory, law firms deferred training contracts or cancelled them altogether. Other firms scaled down their plans for recruiting trainees. I found myself competing against more applicants than ever for a vastly reduced number of vacancies.

During the past three years I have made at least 85 written applications and contacted about two-thirds of the firms in the *Chambers & Partners Directory*, without success.

My best hopes lie in finding a firm seeking to employ a trainee but which has not yet advertised — done by phoning firms at random. Often, I am an unwanted interruption. But though I may be the fifth such person they have dealt with that day, it may well be the twentieth firm to which I have spoken. Usually, I am told to write. My letter, if acknowledged at all, invariably brings a negative response.

Firms that continue to recruit two years in advance are reluctant to risk hiring someone who has already completed their

finals — there is too much uncertainty as to what might happen in the intervening two years. If, like me, the applicant left law school two years ago, they are even less likely to be awarded such a vacancy.

I have also been applying for non-law jobs. For most jobs, my law finals render me over-qualified; many employers do not want to risk training me only to see me disappear should I manage to gain articles. Hence I am virtually unemployed.

A frustrating aspect has been the lack of help shown by the Law Society. The only practical help it provides is its vacancy bulletin, published every two months and carrying an average of eight vacancies country-wide.

My enrolment fee to the society entitled me to complementary copies of the *Law Society Gazette* — the only weekly publication that carries regular vacancies. But because of cutbacks, my copies were stopped in September, 1991. My only link to the profession was severed.

They do not seem to be taking initiatives to encourage firms to increase trainee recruitment. Forecasts predict that there will be a shortage of qualified solicitors by the year 2000, which will prevent firms taking advantage of the likely economic upturn the society should be working to prevent this happening.

With an increased number of places becoming available on the new skills-based finals course, more and more people will risk taking the final stage of their academic training despite not having secured a training contract. Practical help and guidance is needed for them before too many careers are wasted.

At university my ambition was to become a commercial lawyer, perhaps specialising in product liability. Last year my ambition was simply to become a lawyer. Now I just want a job.

BRIAN DOLAN

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Law Report August 24 1993

Chancery Division

Untreatability criterion for release

Regina v Cannons Park Mental Health Review Tribunal, Ex parte A

Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment July 28]

It was unlawful for a psychopathic patient to continue to be detained, for medical treatment, as a consequence of a decision of a mental health review tribunal, when he or she was untreatable in that there was unlikely to be any alleviation or a permanent improvement in deterioration of the condition.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in granting an application by A for judicial review, *inter alia*, to quash the decision of the Cannons Park Mental Health Review Tribunal of May 24, 1993 that the applicant continue to be detained in an interim secure unit at Horton Hospital, Surrey.

Section 3 of the Mental Health Act 1983 provides: "(2) An application for admission for treatment may be made in respect of a patient on the grounds that — (a) he is suffering from ... psychopathic disorder ... of a nature or degree which makes it appropriate for him to receive medical treatment in a hospital; and (b) in the case of psychopathic disorder, such treatment is likely to alleviate or prevent a deterioration in his condition ..."

Section 72 provides: "(1) Where application is made to a mental health review tribunal by or in respect of a patient who is liable to be detained under this Act, the tribunal may in any case direct that the patient be discharged ... (b) the tribunal shall direct the discharge of a patient liable to be detained ... if they are satisfied — (i) that he is not then suffering from ... psychopathic disorder ... of a nature or degree which makes it appropriate for him to be liable to be detained in a hospital for medical treatment; or (ii) that it is not necessary for the health or safety of the patient or for the protection of other persons that he should receive such treatment ..."

Mr Richard Gordon for the applicant, Mr Ian Ashford-Thorn for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY, giving the judgment of the court, said that the applicant had been detained under section 3 on the statutory ground of mental illness. Section 20 governed her continued detention and dealt with the duration and renewal of the authority to detain her upon the same criteria as for admission.

The applicant applied to the review tribunal to be discharged under section 72 following an unsuccessful application under section 23 to the hospital managers. Shortly before the hearing, her diagnosis was changed, under the re-classification provisions of section 16, to one of psychopathic disorder.

The tribunal found that the only appropriate medical treatment

which might have alleviated the applicant's disorder was psychotherapy in a group setting. The applicant was however unwilling to co-operate.

While it was unlikely that treatment in hospital would either have alleviated or prevented deterioration of the applicant's psychopathic disorder, the tribunal was of the view that the applicant's deterioration might have given way to subsequent alleviation and a willingness to co-operate with the appropriate therapy.

His Lordship agreed that that was consistent with the submission of Mr Gordon that the review tribunal hoped that keeping the applicant in hospital would persuade her to agree to group therapy.

Such an aim was not, however, a lawful ground of detention: see *R v Hallstrom, Ex parte W* (1986) QB 1090, 1104.

The applicant submitted, *inter alia*, that in relation to psychopathic disorder, central to sections 3, 20 and 16 was the fact that they contained a treatability test, namely the requirement that medical treatment in hospital was likely to alleviate or prevent a deterioration in the patient's condition. The manifest policy of the Act was that the detention of psychopaths was lawful only where they were treatable.

While that argument was accepted by the respondent in relation

to sections 3, 20 and 16, it was submitted that the difference in wording in section 72(1)(b) meant that a different test applied in relation to a review tribunal. The words "appropriate for him to be liable to be detained" in the subsection did not and could not import the entire ingredients of the earlier sections.

In his Lordship's judgment the phrase, while clumsy, directly picked up on the language of sections 3 and 20 which included in their criteria for liability for detention the appropriateness of medical treatment as well as the likelihood of its being effective.

The tribunal was not a possible further hearing at which a fresh decision to detain could be made. It could only direct discharge as of right, direct discharge in the exercise of its discretion, or decline to do either.

It was appropriate to consider the statute in its wider context because it had ramifications of real public concern.

The court was very much aware of the public concern over recent cases in which mentally disordered individuals had been set at large and had killed or maimed others.

Those appeared to have been sufferers of mental illness, but psychopaths, who were treatable but had failed to keep up their treatment once in the community.

If the law was clear and un-

equivocal, as his Lordship considered it was, in entitling psychopathic but untreatable persons to discharge from compulsory detention, the rule of law bound the court to say so and equally required the tribunal to give effect to it; however deep and understandable their reservations about doing so.

To deprive citizens of their freedom when they had committed no crime was a drastic step requiring justification which was, in the case of psychopaths, the likelihood of treatment.

In the case of the rest, liberty was only to be forfeited on the commission of a criminal offence and even then, the Act prevented the making of a hospital order if the treating liability was not satisfied.

The moral dilemma highlighted in the present case had been very much present in the minds of legislators in formulating the regime which it was the court's duty to interpret and give effect to.

The words of section 72(1) gave the tribunal a wider remit necessarily failed as the tribunal would thereby become a primary decision-making body judging a patient's liability to be detained on criteria different from and less than those found anywhere else in the Act.

Lord Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: Steel & Shumash; Treasury Solicitor.

Foreign contract justiciable

Gulf Bank KSC v Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd

Before Mr Justice Hobhouse

[Judgment July 22]

A contract between foreign companies subject to foreign law but with an indemnity clause made subject to English law, and declared void under the governing law of the contract, nevertheless was a matter concerning a contract and therefore remained within the purview of Order 11 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice Hobhouse so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving reasons for refusing on July 12 the application of the defendants, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd, for a declaration that an indemnity clause in the contract between themselves and Gulf Bank KSC, the plaintiffs, did not come within the jurisdiction of the English courts.

Mr Mark Barnes, QC and Mr Kenneth Maclean for the plaintiffs; Mr Richard Atkins, QC and Mr Steven Berry for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that the contract was for the defendants to supply a plant to the Kuwaiti Ministry of Electricity and Water. An advance payment guarantee was issued by the plaintiff bank to the ministry and a letter of counter-indemnity was given by the defendants to the plaintiffs in consideration of the plaintiffs' issuance of the guarantee. The supply contract was governed by the law of Kuwait.

But by a governing law and jurisdiction clause the indemnity was to be governed by English law and the parties agreed to submit to the jurisdiction of the High Court in England.

The advance payment guarantee was issued to the ministry on March 22, 1989 at the request of the defendants.

In August 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait. In January 1991 the government of Kuwait, presumably in the exile, adopted a resolution by which public works contracts with the government were declared void and automatically terminated with retrospective effect from August 2, 1990.

A letter from the defendants to the plaintiffs on April 28, 1992, if the counter-indemnity had not ceased to be valid and effective, represented a clear repudiation of the defendants' liabilities.

The sums involved, together with other similar guarantees, amounted to the equivalent of £172 million. The defendants said there could be no subsisting liability under the counter-indemnity. The plaintiffs claimed a declaration that it was still capable of giving rise to a liability to indemnify them.

The defendants submitted that a claim for the declaration sought

did not come within the terms of Order 11, rule 1(1)(b) because such a claim was not a claim "brought to enforce, rescind, dissolve or annul or otherwise affect a contract".

The words in sub-paragraph (d) were clearly intended, together with the references to breaches of contract, to make a comprehensive reference to contractual claims.

The language disclosed no intention to exclude any category of contractual claim nor did the policy of Order 11 itself.

The restrictive part of sub-paragraph (d) was that which followed and laid down criteria which the relevant contract had to satisfy. Provided that the relevant contract satisfied one or more of those criteria there was no reason in policy why any legal claim in respect of that contract should not fall within the ambit of Order 11.

The claim made was a claim which was properly characterised as a claim to enforce a contract. To obtain a declaration of a court that a contract was enforceable was a necessary first step in any enforcement by legal process and that it was enforceable and the defendant was liable might often be sufficient to enable the plaintiff to effect recovery under the contract without the need for further legal proceedings.

Solicitors: Stephenson Harwood; Baker & McKenzie.

Cheese v Thomas

Before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Peter Gibson

[Judgment July 30]

In setting aside a transaction for undue influence the basic objective of the court was to restore the parties to their original positions, as nearly as might be.

Achievement of a practically just outcome in that regard required the court to look at all the circumstances, while keeping the basic objective firmly in mind. That necessarily involved the exercise of a measure of discretion in determining the requirements of justice in the particular case.

Where, therefore, an unduly influenced party obtained rescission of a contract under which he had contributed to the purchase price of a house on terms that he should carry it for life, the property passing on his death unencumbered to the other contributor, and the market value of the property had fallen between purchase and rescission, the resulting loss should be borne by both parties proportionately to their contributions. The resulting party was, consequently, unable to recover the whole of his contribution.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Charles William Cheese, from an order made on February 16, 1993 by Judge Michael Oppenheimer, sitting in Uxbridge County Court, whereby, in setting aside for undue influence an agreement between the plaintiff and his nephew, Mr Aubrey Thomas, the defendant, he held that the loss brought about by the fall in the market value of the house, the subject of the agreement, should be shared between plaintiff and defendant in the same proportions as their contributions to the price.

The court also dismissed the defendant's cross-appeal against the judge's finding that the transaction was manifestly disadvantageous to the plaintiff.

Mr Kenneth Hamer for the plaintiff; Mr Jonathan Ferris for the defendant.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the house had been bought in June 1990 at a cost of £93,000 and sold in 1993 at a net price of about £55,400, a loss of over £27,500.

In May 1990 the plaintiff had paid £43,000 to the defendant and the house had been bought in the defendant's sole name. To cover the rest of the price, the defendant had borrowed £40,000 from the Halifax Building Society on the security of a mortgage over the house.

In June 1990 the plaintiff had moved in to live there. Over the following three or four months the defendant had failed to pay the mortgage instalments. The plaintiff had found out about that and had felt his security threatened. He

had decided that he wanted to withdraw and had sought repayment of his £43,000.

Before the judge the plaintiff had claimed that he and the defendant had agreed that the house should be jointly owned. The judge had accepted the defendant's case that the plaintiff had known and agreed that the house would be in the defendant's name.

The plaintiff had agreed that on his death the house would belong to the defendant. In return the amount paid to the building society, that had been the judge's view and his Lordship agreed with the judge.

Restitution for both parties

The court had been much pressed with an argument that there was no decided case in which a court had ever directed a sharing of loss in that way. It was said that that was a principle unknown in English law and that the court had no discretion in the matter.

His Lordship had two observations to make on that argument.

First, when considering what had been the original position of the parties it was important to identify, and properly characterise, the transaction being set aside. The transaction concerned involved both parties making a financial contribution to the acquisition of a new asset from which both were intended to benefit.

It was axiomatic that, when reversing that transaction, the court was concerned to achieve practical justice for both parties, not the plaintiff alone. The plaintiff was seeking the assistance of a court of equity and he who sought equity must do equity.

Second, the basic objective of the court was to restore the parties to their original positions, as nearly as might be, consequent upon cancelling a transaction which the law would not permit to stand.

Achieving a practically just outcome required the court to look at all the circumstances, while keeping the basic objective firmly in mind. In carrying out that exercise the court was, of necessity, exercising a measure of discretion in the sense that it was determining what were the requirements of justice in the particular case.

It was important not to lose sight of the foundation of the jurisdiction being invoked. As Lord Scarman had observed in *National Westminster Bank plc v Morgan* [1985] AC 686, 709, a court in the exercise of that jurisdiction was a court of conscience.

As with the jurisdiction to grant relief, so with the precise form of the relief to be granted, equity as a court of conscience would look at all the circumstances and do what fairness required.

If the defendant had improved the property he was ordered to return, the plaintiff might be required to compensate him. On the other hand, if the plaintiff had improved the property he sought to return, he would not necessarily be entitled to a further payment from the defendant. It might not be just to require from the defendant improvements he did not want.

What was true of profits had to be true of losses. In the ordinary way, where a sum of money was paid to a defendant under a transaction which was set aside, the defendant would be required to repay the whole sum.

There might be exceptional cases where that would be unjust. That might be more readily so where the personal conduct of the defendant was not open to criticism. The judge had acquitted the defendant of acting in a morally reprehensible way towards the plaintiff, describing the defendant as an innocent fiduciary.

In all the circumstances, to require the defendant to shoulder the whole of the loss flowing from the problems which had beset the residential property market for the preceding year or two would be harsh. That was not an outcome a court of conscience should countenance.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Peter Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: K. E. Davis & Sons; Hayes; Mackenzie Knight, Southall.

Loss through undue influence

Thomas and Another v Countryside Council for Wales

Before Mr Justice Roushier

[Judgment July 23]

When assessing whether a farmer's actions were reasonable and so amounted to proper mitigation of his loss resulting from restrictions imposed, by a public environmental protection agency, on his use of his land, pursuit of profitability was not the sole criterion; matters such as maintenance of amenity and aesthetic choice could also be legitimate considerations to be taken into account.

Mr Justice Roushier so held in the Queen's Bench Division on July 23 when giving judgment in favour of Mr and Mrs David Joseph Barry

Amenity relevant

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Mr Justice Roushier so held in the Queen's Bench Division on July 23 when giving judgment in favour of Mr and Mrs David Joseph Barry

Thomas in their appeal against the arbitration award made pursuant to section 50(3) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

MR JUSTICE ROUSHIER said that whether the appellants' decision to adopt the farming system they did was a reasonable one was not answered solely in terms of the commercial optimum.

Obviously profitability was a factor but in an occupation such as farming any test of reasonableness should take some account of other circumstances including individual personal factors of amenity, even of aesthetic preference. What was reasonable was entirely a question of fact for the arbitrator.

حكمة في العمل



THEATRE page 30

Debra Beaumont as a struggling drama student in wartime Paris in *Elvira '40*

ARTS

MUSIC page 31

Hakan Hardenberger, giving Zimmermann's Trumpet Concerto at the Proms on Wednesday



EDINBURGH: the low-budget Film Festival; plus international music stars and Steven Berkoff solo



Matt Dillon as New York electrician Gus, and Annabella Sciorra as his ex-wife Lee, in Anthony Minghella's *Mr Wonderful*, the first American film by the British playwright

Think small, think beautiful

Since the Edinburgh International Film Festival operates on a shoestring, it is only fitting that films made under similar restrictions should form the liveliest part of the programme. Forget about *Jurassic Park*, or the bulk of mainstream art cinema. You must adjust your eyes to Michael Almereyda's *Another Girl, Another Planet*, made with a children's camcorder, or Derek Jarman's remarkable *Blue*, where the image of a blue screen is held unchanged for 76 minutes. Though the number of screenings remains small, and the absence of provocative retrospectives is sorely felt, the festival can still hold its own in Britain as a showcase for independent film-making.

Almereyda's 56-minute novelty was shown during the weekend's "Just Do It" event, dedicated to American films of the most frugal means. The subject-matter was standard independent fare: guys and gals in small apartments, chattering about love, exposing neuroses, combing their hair with a fork. But the simple technology helped greatly in generating intimacy, and cast its own mysterious spell. Was that a close-up of a fish in its tank, or one of the women's cheeks?

Blue, which opens in London on Friday at the Camden Parkway, was an experience of a much higher order. There is nothing in cinema history to match this: a film at once so abstract, yet so intensely and painfully personal. One of the effects of the Aids virus on Jarman is the gradual loss of his sight; by relinquishing the film-maker's usual panoply of images he is preparing himself for blindness, and beyond that, death.

In the words of Jarman's complex commentary, largely spoken by John Quentin, Nigel Terry and Tilda

Geoff Brown finds independent films made on a shoestring can offer rewards out of all proportion to their tiny budgets

Swinton, "Blue is darkness made visible." Blue is also the colour of delphiniums, speedwell, summer skies, even jeans: Jarman's words conjure the full range, while allowing us to project our own imaginings onto the bright azure screen. Criss-crossing the soundtrack come Jarman's diary entries during hospital treatment, his recollections of lost friends, and a myriad of sounds (Buddhist prayer bells, fairground tootles, sea-coast murmurs) subtly blended by his regular composer Simon Fisher Turner.

In this film the audience is no passive observer. Rapt concentration sucks us into the text, the sounds and the implacable blue screen; we become active participants in Jarman's meditation on his life, art and death. The sum effect is challenging, exhilarating and, above all, humbling.

Jarman's presence hovers over another festival film, Alexis Bistacas's *The Clearing*, a haunting seven minutes' worth from a Royal College of Art student seriously ill with Aids himself. We are in a wood with a male stroller and a travelling camera; the sound of a saxophone lures him to a clearing, where Jarman himself briefly appears. Put into words, it may sound dull; seen on the screen, it vibrates with cryptic poetry.

The Clearing aside, the British student films competing for the Young Film Maker of the Year award look lacklustre. From a brief sampling, none can compare with the urgency and beauty of Dan Geva's *Jerusalem*. *Rhythms of a Distant City*, masterfully shot with a handheld camera, or the eccentricity of



'As a showcase for independent film-making, the festival still holds its own in Britain'

Don McKellar's Canadian entry, also called *Blue*, in which another director, David Cronenberg, sings and buys dirty magazines.

Other strange sights appear in Franz Kafka's *It's a Wonderful Life*, a 24-minute jest from Scotland's Peter Capaldi, writer and co-star of *Soft Top, Hard Shoulder*. As Christmas looms, Mr K (Richard E. Grant) sits in his garret, struggling through interruptions to write the opening sentence of *Metamorphosis*. The film's finale, a musical number, is a serious mistake; until then, this conflation of Kafka's bleak spirit and Capra's sentiment is a dotty delight.

In the feature sphere, one British

film has caused disproportionate excitement. Safe, made for the BBC by television and theatre director Antonio Bird, takes a hard, documentary-style look at an urgent problem: homeless youth in London. The cast, headed by Kate Hardie, is excellent, and you cannot fault the good intentions. But for me the film, written by Al Ashton, slips into the mistake of believing that nothing looks real unless everyone kicks up a frightful ruckus.

Noise and violence dominate another British entry, Danny Cannon's feature debut *The Young Americans*, though reality is the last thing on this director's mind. He bunglers for the Hollywood dream machine, and piles on the visual razzmatazz while plodding through an updated equivalent of those post-war British spiv thrillers. He has an American star, too, though after watching Harvey Keitel in *Bad Lieutenant* we have an uphill struggle accepting him as a pillar of Los Angeles's Drug Enforcement Agency. This is one film Edinburgh could have done without.

Maybe if the 25-year-old Cannon makes the jump across the Atlantic, his talents will settle down. The switch certainly did not harm Anthony Minghella, who has followed his Hampstead ghost story *Truly, Madly*. Deeply with a charming romantic comedy set in New York, *Mr Wonderful*. To stop his resources being drained by maintenance payments, Matt Dillon, an electrical worker, tries to find a new man for his ex-wife, Annabella Sciorra. Compared to *Truly, Madly*, this may well

be Hollywood candyfloss, but Minghella adds his own flavouring, gets close to his characters, and makes every predictable plot twist matter. The film plays at the festival this coming weekend.

This past weekend, though, belonged decisively to the low-budget Americans, striking out with minimal resources and maximum cheek. Rob Weiss's *Amongst Friends*, shot in six weeks for \$70,000, did not properly belong with its neighbours, though this tale of Long Island rich kids striving to be low-down thugs impressed audiences with its aggressively energetic style.

My own sympathies lay more with the truly threadbare movies, such as Robert Rodriguez's *El Mariachi* (reviewed here last week); their directors seemed more concerned with learning a craft and telling their stories than landing a Hollywood contract. Even *My Life's in Turnaround* had its goofy charms, though Eric Schaeffer and Donal Lardner Ward, the directors, writers and stars, certainly devised this semi-autobiographical comedy as a means of attracting attention.

They play two New York dunderheads on the brink of 30, with a failed career in avant-garde theatre. Schaeffer drives a cab; Ward tends bar. Inspired by the new crop of independent film-makers, they decide to make a movie. Fortune shines, and they blunder forward, ending up with the film we have all been watching. *My Life's in Turnaround* is too cute and silly for its own good, but as you watch you can see fresh talent sprouting up before your eyes. No festivalgoer should ask for less.

● The Edinburgh International Film Festival continues until August 29. Details from Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh (031-228 2683).

Voices from all directions

Slightly baffled, Hilary Finch reports mixed fortunes for some top names in the recital programme

The famous double thread of Schubert and Janáček which runs through this year's Edinburgh Festival at last rose to the surface of its fabric at the weekend in a revelatory recital by Robert Holl and András Schiff. In a smaller festival like Schiff's own at Mondsee in Austria (where, apparently the idea originated) the juxtaposition doubtless has a cumulative resonance: in Edinburgh, as Richard Morrison found last week, it can seem little more than a baffling twinning of names.

On Friday last, though, at the Queen's Hall, things became a little clearer. First, the high verbal intelligence of Holl's singing of a group of Schubert's Mayrhofer settings threw the wordless eloquence of Schiff's two Janáček piano solos into bold relief. Second, the listener was struck by the fascination of both composers, each in his own distinctive way, with registering and transmitting the pulses and inflections of the natural world into a transcendent musical language.

Holl had taken upon himself two of Schubert's more harrowing character pieces, "Das blinde Knabe" and "Der Zwerg". The painfully macabre latter gave a foretaste of the depth of anguish that he would find in Schubert's *Winterreise* two days' later.

This was one of the longest, darkest performances of this work I had witnessed, even from Holl himself. The characteristic lowered eyes and lowering brow, the intense concentration on the placing and shaping of each verbal and musical phrase, their contours sensed with a small, barely conscious hand gesture, all contributed to a vision of ever deepening resignation, shot through with moments of almost unbearable pain.

The bitter sneer kicking out the consonants of "Die Post", the vehemence of the challenge thrown out to the circling crowd: these were just examples of musical moments seized and made potent in this constantly compelling performance accompanied per-

ceptively by Oleg Maisenberg. The power of communication to each rapt member of the audience was direct and palpable. Not so, alas, and puzzlingly was Thomas Hampson's recital on Saturday. Perhaps the change of venue to the Usher Hall and the presence of EMI's microphones, recording the complete recital, were factors in Hampson's strangely distant performance.

There was much to enjoy: Hampson's own meticulously cultivated baritone, and typically zealous programme preparation ensured that. The centre of the evening was particularly rewarding, with the discovery of some vigorous settings of Robert Burns by an undeservedly little known contemporary of Schumann called Robert Franz, melodically and harmonically rich. Grieg's six German Lieder too, drew style and enthusiasm from Hampson and eloquent playing from his accompanist, Geoffrey Parsons.

But the outer pillars of the recital, Beethoven's *An die ferne geliebte* and Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, were weak. Hampson seemed rather more aware of himself than of the music.

If Hampson seemed at times disengaged then his compatriot, American soprano Sylvia McNair, was all too eager to please in her Saturday morning recital which completed this weekend's festival of song at Edinburgh. Charming threatened to be all in three songs by Henry Purcell and four Italian ditties by Schubert. The Purcell in particular deserved more rigorous attention to detail than was afforded it in its role as warming-up exercise.

Four *Morike-Lieder* of Hugo Wolf and Debussy's *Arctiques oubliées* revealed greater interpretative depths, in part thanks to the discerning accompaniment of Roger Vignoles. McNair came into her own in the groups of songs by Bernstein (*I hate music* and *La Bonne Cuisine*) with which she signed off a superficially entertaining programme.



Martin Hoyle enjoys a Dickensian grotesque, a luvvy, a thug and his dog

What makes a bogey man? Why does this leering, bobbing and writhing figure in a torn tail-suit, tongue flapping in obscene confidentiality, recall the nightmare terrors of childhood?

Steven Berkoff opens a three-movement solo show at the Assembly Rooms, *One Man*, with his version of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart*, and reminds us that one of the most potent elements of fear is the unexpected, the incongruous. Henpecked Dr Crippen and pint-sized housebreaker Charles Peace were long conjured up as frighteners for naughty children, inspiring a dread disproportionate to their meagre tally of murders.

They acquired mythic evil status, a more sinister aura than subsequent mass killers who look like explicable social aberrations in comparison. The respectable and especially the hideous far well to re-

Perfectly horrid, beastly display

member in the city that created Jekyll and Hyde, and where a brilliant university lecturer connived at bodysnatching and murder) make the most shocking villains. If Dickens had made Uriah Heep a murderer, a monster would have resulted.

Berkoff's ability to turn himself into living caricature (he opens everything — eyes, mouth, legs — in a rather un-English way) actually recalls the Phiz illustrations to Dickens. He has a prancing, manic quality that evokes not merely Poe but Gogol. At first almost every word is wrenched out of his body with a visible effort. He recounts a first-person tale of obsession, murder and madness in variations on a

creaky rasp, even throwing in the odd detached comment in prosaic modern times. The result is a pyrotechnic display that defies labelling — baroque, Gothic, surreal? Art leaves nature standing. The actor ignores the sweat that drops from him like hailstones but mops his brow perversely on a dry patch, according to his own clockwork-precise production.

The other two pieces are slighter in substance. One is a breathless kaleidoscope of showbiz struggles. Running on the spot, the aspirant actor beamingly greets friends, exchanges shop-talk with colleagues (envy, mock sympathy, *schadenfreude*), squabbles with his parents,

seduces and breaks up with women. Quite amusing but nothing new, it recalls a more wide-ranging exploration of luvvies by Jack Klaff, *Wonderful Darling*, at the Edinburgh Festival some years ago.

The last work finds Berkoff in good grotesque form, that blaring brutal mouth gashed like the Greek mask of comedy. Or tragedy, or both. In Union Jack T-shirt, a beer-swilling yob takes us back to the East End of Berkoff's early works, but this lampooned Millwall supporter is devoid of dignity or even menace as he remembers the violence and vomit.

What lifts the performance above cliché is Berkoff's occasional switch to portraying our hero's flesh-tearing dog, Roy. The comparison between savage hound and snarling master recalls the end of *Animal Farm*. You look from man to beast and from beast to man; and the differences disappear.

RSC
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
with
Royal Insurance

THE WINTER'S TALE
William Shakespeare

'ENTHRALLING'
Sunday Telegraph

'MAGNIFICENT'
Time Out

'A production to crack the hardest hearts'
Guardian

'The acting honours belong to John Nettles'
Mail on Sunday

FINAL summer performances:
25 August 7.15pm
26 August 2pm and 7.15pm

Barbican Theatre
London
071 638 8891

But don't take my word for it

Theatre critics are said to make or break a new show, but Jeremy Kingston finds the producers turning the barbs around

An unusually honest note has entered the clamorous world of theatre advertising, a genre popularly assumed to have carried the art of selective quotation to unrivalled heights. Nowhere else can three little dots be placed so artfully, and many a cynical theatregoer must have wondered if... spectacular... (Daily Blast) was first tapped on to the critic's screen as "This show is a spectacular disaster".

But now the inventive producer Bill Kenwright, or his advertising agency, has come up with a striking development of puffery, to wit: the judicious use of a bad review. John Godber's après-ski comedy *On The Piste* opened last February to a generally positive reception, though some notices hinted at the writer's surprise that he was actually at last liking a Godber play. The current newspaper advert assembles ten quotes — "Very funny" from Paul Taylor; "Genuinely funny" from our own Benedict Nightingale; "Surprisingly funny" from John Gross; and so forth, a gathering of approval surely justifying the heading above the top: THE CRITICS ARE UNANIMOUS!

Then you notice an asterisk after the exclamation mark, and down at the bottom of the ad, underneath what Ned and Maureen, Michael and Charles have to say, the asterisk makes its second appearance, alongside a caveat printed in italics that are fainter than the bold words of praise but large enough to catch the eye. Except Nicholas... "Sick, crude and obvi-

ous!" Nicholas de Jongh, *Evening Standard*.

I do not know how you respond to this joky candour but it would make me feel that a show thus puffed might, if nothing else, be fun. For this reason, it would not be the way to plug *Othello* where dissent is no joke and would fit uneasily in the context of asterisks and first names. On the other hand, I do wonder if earnest exaltation is the best way to promote a serious play. "I urge and beg you to see it..." What's wrong with the thing that the *Sunday Times* chap must go down on his knees?

From the point of view of producers, who live in an eternal present, the purpose of theatre criticism is to provide quotations that will act upon the public like maggots to fish. Snap and they're hooked. An actor may be stricken when a critic fails to name him but so long as something is praised the producer will smile and reach for his scissors. "Tom Conti makes this play to see," is the gist of what the *Financial Times* has to say of *Present Laughter*, even though the original words do not say this so neatly and no dots have been inserted to mark the jumps.

But check the context of Irving Wardle's comment in the *Independent on Sunday* — "Tom Conti — an actor of devastating charm, and you will find that 'devastating' is not praise."

Can the *Guardian* really have said, of *Don't Dress For Dinner*, "Breathtaking farce, a near faultless piece of theatrical invention?" Yes, it did, though Michael

JENNY SEAGROVE

EDWARD'S
SENT
HTER

OME OF
EST COMEDY
RMANCES
BE SEEN
NDON...
TRIUMPH"



THIS SUMMER GO FOR PRESENT LAUGHTER
TOM CONTI'S OWN PERFORMANCE IS TO BE TREASURED

"JENNY SEAGROVE, LIKE A GLAMOROUS PRAYER
BRINGS IT OFF WITH A WICKED PANACHE
AND GETS THE ACCENT BRILLIANTLY"

GABRIELLE DRAKE, TOP CLASS, GORGEOUSLY
TART AND BUSINESS LIKE"

BEAUTIFULLY ELEGANT AND

GLOBE THEATRE

Pointing out what they want you to see? A visitor to London appears unimpressed by quoted critical plaudits for a current London revival of *Present Laughter*

Billington was not the critic who said so but Rosalind Carne, whose name the management properly displays outside the theatre, next to an enthusiastic review from a newspaper in Guildford.

The non-appearance on billboards of the daily and weekly heavies is as good as a bad review for the keen-eyed theatregoer. Likewise, a preponderance of approving notices from *Screen Magazine* and *LBC*, as displayed outside *Lust* — worthy organs, both of them, but cheering in a landscape otherwise barren except for the *FT* and *Express*.

After checking the billboards of 20 West End theatres against the original reviews reproduced in fan Herbert's *Theatre Record*, I have to report that the art of flagrant misrepresentation is in eclipse. Perhaps this disappearance will only be temporary, although my own experience suggests that today's managements will immediately remove an offending item if the critics venture to protest.

I heartily disliked the current production of *Blood Brothers*, now in its sixth year, and said so with emphasis. But the scruples of an honest reporter obliged me to add a

closing sentence: "I am bound to record that at the final curtain the stalls rose and gave vent to grateful cheers that could still be heard as I fled shuddering to the Underground."

Of course I should have known better, and sure enough Bill Kenwright made use of the sentence from "the stalls rose" as far as "grateful cheers" for a year or more until I murmured a complaint when reviewing another Kenwright show. He rang me before breakfast the next morning. "You should have complained earlier," he said, and wiped the quote.

The cheekiest misrepresentation of modern times occurred in New York where some dismal musical presented by David Merrick was in terrible trouble. He had the wit to look through the telephone directory for people with the same names as the leading critics, invited them to his show and printed their views: "Terrific (Clive Barnes)", "Fantastic (Walter Kerr)" — although in fact they were cab drivers and tailors. I hope this ruse, worthy of Phineas T. Barnum, prince of conmen, extended the run a little.

Every time lavish musicals die a death, the producers blame critics

for being out of touch with what the public wants. But they cannot have it both ways. If our dislikes are not worth the paper they are printed on — how dare we object to *Leonardo*, *Bernadette*, *Moby Dick*, *Which Witch?* — then neither is our enthusiasm worth the billboards it is printed on.

Fortunately there are enough of us to bring a broad range of expectation to what we are invited to review. When we howl in unison the likelihood is that a paying public will also howl, except perhaps for Jack Tinker (a tinker?) and Paul Taylor (a tailor?).

PROMS PREVIEW: Tomorrow two British premieres show black music's impact in Germany

Africa meets Weimar, and all that jazz

Stephen Pettitt talks to conductor Robert Ziegler about the unjustly neglected music of Wilhelm Grosz

In the melting pot of ideas which the Proms represent, one of the most eye-catching programmes this year is that offered by the group Matrix under its conductor Robert Ziegler tomorrow. The name of Kurt Weill, represented by *Mahagonny-Songspiel* and *Cry, the Beloved Country*, is familiar to most music-lovers. And Bernd Alois Zimmermann, whose trumpet concerto *Nobody knows de trouble I see* will be played by Hakan Hardenberger, has at least the benefit of remembered notoriety for his complex modernist opera *Die Soldaten*, composed and revised in the late fifties and early sixties when the zeal of postwar Darmstadt was still current.

But another composer in the programme, Wilhelm Grosz, will be a stranger to many, though not to those who remember the heyday of London's "Tin Pan Alley" where he found himself a great success, having fled from the Nazis in the early Thirties. "He was introduced to me by John Willmet, the Brecht scholar and specialist in the Weimar period," says Ziegler. "He told me about this ballet called *Baby in der Bar*, which is quite a period piece, with a jazz band on stage. And then he said, look, there are also all these songs. So I looked around and finally found a song of his recorded ages ago by Kurt Gerron, who was in the first performance of *The Threepenny Opera*. And I just went on from there."

Grosz's music was once widely published by Universal Edition, but no longer. Coming from the same pedigree as Weill, he wrote a learned doctoral thesis on the use of fugue in Mozart and a pair of one-act operas in the style of Richard Strauss. "But," Ziegler adds, "he was also one of the first people, predating even Milhaud, to use jazz in a concert context. Eventually I came across these *Afrika-Songs*, which are settings of some of the Harlem poets from the time. Langston Hughes chief among them."

Was the influence of black cultures absorbed in technical terms or in spirit by these

German Jews? Ziegler thinks it was something of both. "The wildfire of jazz spread from Zemlinsky to Weill to Krenek and all around, with different levels of ability and sophistication. You can look at it as part of a very large post-Wagnerian reaction to 19th-century music."

The obvious question to ask is whether this cross-fertilisation between Jew and black American represents a mutual sharing of oppression. "It's something I've thought about a lot. I can't find anything to make a real case for that. I don't think

they felt at that time a particular sense of fraternity with the black situation. Lots of non-Jews wrote in a jazz idiom as well. All of this was of course pre-1933. They were working as Europeans, and Grosz was Viennese down to his toes." So it's more a conscious attempt to popularise? "Absolutely. I think the folk element appealed to them, but that provokes a lot of composers." Ziegler, now 40, has been making steady inroads into his chosen profession since coming to Britain from Los Angeles in the early Eighties after training with, among others, Giulini. He now conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Scottish Chamber Orchestra fairly regularly and tries to make a special point of tackling unusual or contemporary repertoire wherever he is invited to work. "It's always a lift if you can include something that's a bit out of the way."

He regards the Matrix Ensemble, which he formed in 1987 specifically for a concert of works by Eisler at the Almeida Theatre, as "a kind of laboratory for new works, new contexts, new combinations of music." They have performed, for instance, music with puppets, with film, and with actors. "But they also spawn new ideas for larger programmes. When a programme has an idea to it everyone can understand it. They might only get a little bit of it, but they're taken somewhere else rather than being passive. They're asked to accept an idea and hear the music in that."



Robert Ziegler (left) and Hakan Hardenberger (right): conductor and soloist in tomorrow's Matrix Ensemble Prom



Hakan Hardenberger champions Bernd Alois Zimmermann's trumpet concerto. By Hilary Finch

When he was eight years old and living in the countryside of southern Sweden, Hakan Hardenberger was given a battered second-hand trumpet as a last-minute Christmas present from his father, who was something of a Louis Armstrong buff. Hakan wrote in his exercise book: "My teacher says if I practice hard I can become a great trumpet player, so that is what I will be." It's a story which now makes him wince; but it is also the story which lies behind the fact that two of this year's Prom premieres are works written specifically for solo trumpet.

After 200 years of social and musical ostracism, the trumpet is now the instrument to write for and to programme. Hakan Hardenberger is the epitome, some would say the apotheosis, of a new breed of determined and fearless soloists, like Maurice André, Philip Jones and John Wallace, whose refusal to be intimidated by time-honoured obstacles and prejudices has, in turn, stimulated a whole new generation of composers to write again for the trumpet.

It was jazz, of course, which first freed the trumpet from centuries of stalemate caused by a continuous subtext of military and religious associations which haunted the instrument's history. Hardenberger sees the huge trumpet-shaped gap in the Romantic

repertoire, for instance, as being a largely sociological phenomenon. "I've tried some Schumann pieces with cornet and piano, and the blend is ideal. It's just the right colour. But the cornet was considered a lower-class, vulgar, outdoor instrument, suitable only for military bands and fanfares."

It was precisely to heal such social rifts that the German composer Bernd Alois Zimmermann (born 1918) used the trumpet — and black American music — as prime movers in his work. *Nobody knows de trouble I see* is the trumpet — and black American music — as prime movers in his work. *Nobody knows de trouble I see* is the trumpet — and black American music — as prime movers in his work.

trumpeter has gone before has itself pushed back the known boundaries of the instrument. Michael Blake Watkins's and Jan Sandström's *Concertos* and, in particular, Harrison Birtwistle's *Endless Parade*, all written for Hardenberger, have expanded the trumpet's technical and expressive possibilities beyond what even Hardenberger himself had thought possible. The latest composer to fall under his spell has been Hans Werner

Henze, whose now-complete *Regulium* will be premiered at a special midday Prom on Sunday, September 5. Other composers are also lining up to write for Hardenberger. Takemitsu is one. Arvo Pärt another. He would love to commission something from Henri Dutilleul, too. Never again, he determines, will there be a time when trumpeters do not dare or cannot be bothered to ask composers to write for them. "Think of Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Bartók. Nothing! There were brilliant trumpet players in America by the time Bartók got there. And he had to earn his bread and butter. If they'd offered him ten dollars, he'd surely have written them a sonata."

What, for Hardenberger, is the most rewarding part of his ever-increasing repertoire? "I couldn't possibly say. All I know is that there are moments when I'm playing when the self is completely wiped out, and all that is happening is that the music is moving through you. You feel as if you're not there. Yet it's a paradox, because it's when that happens that you're actually giving the most. It happens sometimes with Roland Pöntinen, [Hardenberger's pianist for the past ten years] and when I've played Haydn with Paavo Berglund. You'll practise millions of hours just for those moments, that feeling."

It was jazz first freed the trumpet from centuries of stalemate

PROM REVIEWS

Benefits of a fresh approach

A part from the couple immediately adjacent who behaved like teenagers in the back row of some suburban flat, the lady near by who insisted on playing footsie with one of those crinkly plastic bags, and the party in the box opposite who ignored the distraction of what was happening on the stage by ploughing manfully on with their champagne picnic, I rather enjoyed last Saturday's Prom. It was given by a team of real musicians, professionals to the core.

Almost by definition the National Youth Chamber Orchestra is the cream of the cream of the nation's young talent, and it showed in everything they played. One can write that without patronising deference to their age; often the string sound was every bit as refined as one hears from a major London orchestra, while the woodwinds were, both individually and collectively, quite superb.

Perhaps, on the other hand, their youth was betrayed in the slightly precious sexlessness of Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll*, where the conductor, Stephen Kovacevich, did nothing to disturb an atmosphere of prayerful calm. But if not my personal ideal, this was a perfectly valid reading which at least set out, for all who were willing to hear, the marvellous poise and control of which these players are capable.

Such polish flowed over into the next work, Richard Strauss's Second Horn Concerto, given an extraordinarily confident account by orchestra and soloist alike. That soloist was the young Cambridge history undergraduate David Pyatt, who just happened to have won the BBC Young Musician of the Year award, aged 14, in 1988. Again no condescending account needed to be taken of Pyatt's tender years. He stayed unfazed by hugeness of hall, audience or the technical challenge of this fertile work, splitting not a single note and faltering neither in articulation nor tone quality. It was altogether a superb display of an already finely honed craft.

So was that offered by the NYCO's principals, together with the pianist Richard Ormrod, in Webern's Concerto for Nine Instruments, Op 24, still, 60 or so years after its composition, a

NYCO/Kovacevich
BBCSO/Davis
Albert Hall/Radio 3

brave offering to set before this audience, though one to which at least the Prom-naders lent their usual rapt ear. Line, colour and rhythmic precision were the order of the day here: this team played the work as if it were second nature, enjoying both the musical experience and the limelight to the full.

But most of the seated audience had come, one suspects, for Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, which received a powerful, arresting but carefully balanced performance. If we were not newly shocked in the way that, say, Norrington can still shock us in this work, it was nevertheless impossible not to be carried along by the boldly creative waves Beethoven stirred up. And how thrilling was that glorious beginning to the finale, where trombones add their revolutionary resonance to the triumphant blaze.

The following night Andrew Davis and the BBC Symphony Orchestra devoted their concert to English music. Delius's *Sea Drift* sets Walt Whitman's wonderfully wind-blown, passionately tragic words rather flabbily, to my way of thinking, and Thomas Allen, the baritone soloist, adopted a polite manner with them, which did not help at all.

Conversely Elgar's autobiographical *The Music Makers* is a fine work which sets a text by Arthur D'Shaughnessy that is no more than a period piece, undistinguished save for the opening two lines. Jean Rigby, the solo mezzo-soprano, and the BBC Symphony Chorus, who sang with a formidable discipline both here and in the Delius, were able fully to relish the music's many bold, glorious and moving moments.

Between these two pieces Kathryn Stott gave a glittering reading of that old Proms favourite John Ireland's Piano Concerto. Neither her keen advocacy nor that of Davis and his inform charges could disguise, however, this work's irritating tendency to flog its motifs to death.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Future championships unlikely to reach Stuttgart pinnacle

Conquering heroes make case for prize-money

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pop group. Take That. went almost unnoticed in a corner of Terminal 1 at Heathrow Airport yesterday lunch-time. The British athletics team attracted far greater interest, arriving home from the world championships in Stuttgart to banners, cameras, cheering and chanting. The woman behind a car-hire counter could not remember a reception like it.

If only Primo Nebiolo, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) president, would show more appreciation for a job well done. Still, though, he refuses to concede that prize-money should be paid. Yet the performances of Linford Christie, Colin Jackson, Sally Gunnell and Michael Johnson were no less professional in preparation and execution than that of, say, a Wimbledon champion. Nor did Nebiolo win any friends among the sport's entertainers by his move to prevent a group of athletes, Johnson among them, from staying in the same hotel as federation officials.

"The IAAF president refuses to accept any athletes in the official hotel," read the fax from the organising committee to Brad Hunt, Johnson's manager, who had tried to book his squad in when they found the athletes' quarters inadequate.

The championships were better than the Olympic Games last year or the previous world championships. In 14 of the 24 men's events, the winning mark was better than at the Olympics; 16 were superior by comparison with the 1991 winning performances. In the 19 women's events, ten winning marks

were better than in Barcelona; 12 were an improvement on the 1991 world championships.

Four world records were improved and one was equalled, a better return than from the Olympics; there was no shortage, either, of close competition: Gunnell beating Sandra Farmer-Patrick in the 400 metres hurdles by the length of a fly-fisherman's hair; Devereaux beating Merlene Ottey in the 100 metres by the width of one.

However, no athlete was able to sustain a peak through three years of successive global championships; now that world championships are biennial, this is a new demand. Joan Allison, the Great Britain team manager, believes that the athletes cannot continue to rise to present achievement levels. "They [the IAAF] have got away with it this time but I think this will be the greatest world championships of them all," Allison said.

While the age of sprint champions is rising, it is falling among the distance runners. Christie and Ottey, both 33, are respectively the men's 100 metres and women's 200 metres champions; Ismael Kirui, 18, won the 5,000 metres; Haile Gebrselassie the 10,000 metres at 20, and none of the three Chinese women who won on the track, at 1,500 metres, 3,000 metres and 10,000 metres, is over 20.

Selina Barroso, of Kenya, was third in the women's 10,000 metres before her sixteenth birthday. Much has been said in the United States about the sport there being in crisis, but 13 gold medals was more than three times the number won by any other country.

In view of the suspicions of drug-taking aroused by China's success, it will be interesting to see whether the IAAF agrees to a proposal from Peter Radford, the British Athletic Federation chairman, for a fingerprint register to ensure that athletes tested at random are who they say they are. Of more immediate interest to the BAF, though, is negotiations for a new domestic television contract. The present one with ITV expires in March. The performances of Britain's athletes should have strengthened the BAF's bargaining hand.



Allison: warning note



Christie and Gunnell display their gold medals at Heathrow yesterday

Krabbe battle will rage on

INTERNATIONAL athletics officials yesterday accepted they could face a legal battle in the German courts over the decision to impose a two-year ban on the sprinter, Katri Krabbe, for admitting that she took drugs (John Goodbody writes).

Krabbe, the 1991 world 100 and 200 metres champion, and her compatriots, Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr, have already been suspended for 12 months and now the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) has extended the suspension for a further two years for "unsportsmanlike behaviour".

The federation has been unable to enforce its minimum four-year ban for serious doping offences, because it feared the German courts would judge the suspension

too long for an athlete earning money.

When asked if he feared Krabbe might resort to the civil courts to fight the ban, Arne Ljungqvist, the IAAF medical commission president, replied: "That could be the situation... The council did not get legal advice on the two years. The council believed that people involved in this kind of matter should be seriously punished." However, he added that the federation council had discussed a report on legal problems in Germany.

Last July, Krabbe, Breuer and Derr gave further urine samples, which they admit contained deuterium. This drug is known as "doper's delight", because it is both a stimulant and an anabolic agent in animals and may

help a competitor to recover more quickly from intensive training. In Germany, it is also licensed as a drug for the treatment of asthma, from which the three Germans say they were suffering.

Clenbuterol, the drug taken last year by Andrew Saxton and Andrew Davies, the two British weightlifters sent home from the 1992 Olympic Games. They have been granted legal aid to take the British Olympic Association to court, because it is debatable whether it was a substance proscribed by the international Olympic Committee.

The IAAF arbitration panel is to rule on the case of John Nguui, of Kenya, five times world-cross country champion, who last February refused to give a urine sample.

Rocastle in line for recall against Arsenal

By KERRI PHIX

DAVID Rocastle, whose football career has gone backwards since his transfer from Arsenal to Leeds United, could tonight be given a rare chance to establish himself.

Rocastle, who has started only 13 games under Howard Wilkinson after a £2 million move in July last year, has been included in the Leeds squad for the FA Cup Premier match against his former club at Highbury.

Mark Tinkler, the teenager who made such an impression during England's victory in the world under-18 championship last month, is also in contention as Wilkinson considers his options after their 4-0 home defeat by Norwich City on Saturday.

Wilkinson must make at least one change. David O'Leary, who followed Rocastle to Elland Road on a free transfer after 20 years with Arsenal, is on crutches after damaging an Achilles tendon against Norwich.

David Wetherall and Jon Newsome are O'Leary's possible replacements. Arsenal will be without John Jensen, who is on World Cup duty with Denmark.

The international managers, Graham Taylor and Jack Charlton, will have more than a passing interest in events at Maine Road, where Manchester City meet Blackburn Rovers.

Time is running out for Alan Shearer, the Blackburn striker, if he is to prove his recovery from a cruciate ligament injury before England's World Cup qualifying tie against Poland on September 8, while Niall Quinn, of City and Ireland, may also start his first match of the season. An ankle injury has put his chance of a place against Lithuania next month at risk.

Justin Fio, Sheffield United's Norwegian striker, who was his side's best player during their defeat at Everton, will make his first home appearance against Wimbledon at Bramall Lane. Their opponents have decided not to pursue their interest in Danny Wallace, the Manchester United winger who had been expected to join them on a free transfer.

Nottingham Forest could go top of the Endersleigh Insurance League first division if they beat Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park tonight and Middlesbrough fail to win at Barnsley.

Forest are likely to include Stan Collymore, their record signing, for the first time, provided the striker proves he has recovered from tonsillitis.

SPORT IN BRIEF

England Cup team to be led by Faldo

NICK Faldo, the world No 1, who declined to play in the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews last season, will return this year to captain the England team in the 16-nation tournament from October 14 to 17. England will field a different trio from that which won the event in 1992. Faldo, Peter Baker and Mark James replace Jamie Spence, David Gifford and Steven Richardson, none of whom qualified for selection, which is based on earnings in Europe.

Scotland, the 1992 runners-up, will again be captained by Collo Montgomery, and he will be supported by Sam Torrance and Gordon Brand Jr. Wales will be led by Ian Woosnam backed by Mark Mouland and Paul Mayo. Ireland's team will be Ronan Rafferty, David Feherty and Paul McGinley.

In Castle Rock, Colorado, Phil Mickelson, 23, became the youngest three-time winner on the US PGA Tour since Jack Nicklaus when he had an easy victory in the International tournament on Sunday.

Britain defeated again

HOCKEY: Great Britain went down to their second defeat in two matches at the women's Champions Trophy in Amsterdam yesterday. They lost 3-1 to South Korea, who attacked superbly. Once again Britain had their goalkeeper, Hilary Rose, to thank for keeping the scoreline respectable. South Korea took the lead when Lee Ji Young converted a thirteenth-minute penalty stroke, awarded after Sue Fraser had illegally blocked a shot on goal.

Three minutes before the interval, Ro Young Mi added a brilliant second and in the 46th minute Lee Kui Joo made it 3-0 with a fine individual effort. Britain never gave up and the Trojan forward, Sally Gibson, scored after 54 minutes. The Olympic champions, Spain, crushed 8-1 to Australia — their second defeat in two days — and are in last place.

Tracy beats Mansell

MOTOR SPORT: Nigel Mansell's hopes of three consecutive IndyCar victories were wrecked by Paul Tracy, of Canada, who led throughout in the Texaco-Havoline 200-mile race at Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, on Sunday. Mansell finished second in his Newman-Haas Lola-Ford but he was able to extend his lead in the IndyCar drivers' championship to 31 points over Tracy's Penske-Chevrolet team-mate, Emerson Fittipaldi. It was Tracy's fourth victory of the season and strengthened his grip on third place in the title race, which has four rounds remaining.

Gascoigne picked

FOOTBALL: Paul Gascoigne has been picked for England's critical World Cup match against Poland after Graham Taylor flew to Rome to check on the midfield player's condition. Taylor paid to watch Gascoigne and has told him he will be in the squad for the Wembley match on September 8. Claudio Bartoloni, the Lazio club doctor, was last week reported as saying that "Paul is only 50 per cent fit after his crazy summer". But Taylor, after watching Lazio gain a 1-0 win against Roma in a warm-up game, said that Gascoigne looked "no less fit than any other Lazio player".

Tordo out of action

RUGBY UNION: Jean-François Tordo, the France captain, has ruptured a knee ligament and will be out of action for six months. Tordo, who led France to the five nations' championship title in the spring, sustained the injury playing for Nice against Grasse on Saturday. According to the Nice club doctor, Tordo, who had an operation yesterday at the Saint-Laurent clinic, "will not be able to undergo any sporting activity for six months". Tordo sustained the injury when he landed badly on his right leg and had to be helped from the field.

Banking on experience

ICE HOCKEY: Alex Dampier, the Great Britain coach, has named a preliminary squad of 25 players for the Olympic play-off which starts in Sheffield on Saturday with Britain playing Poland. He has included the three goaltenders who performed so well in Eindhoven last April when Britain won pool B of the world championships, but there are six newcomers to the squad, four of whom are Canadian-born. This takes the dual-national complement to 14. The average age of the dual-nationals is over 31, so Dampier is banking on experience.

Brazil return to form

FOOTBALL: Brazil beat Ecuador 2-0 before a capacity crowd of 80,000 in São Paulo to improve their chances of qualifying for the World Cup finals in the United States. It was a badly needed boost for Brazil, whose recent results have been poor. The victory put them two points ahead of Ecuador and Uruguay in the South American group B but they are still well behind Bolivia, who defeated Venezuela 7-0 in La Paz to maintain their 100 per cent record. In another World Cup match on Sunday, Argentina went back to the top of group A by defeating Peru 2-1 in Buenos Aires.

Fox will miss tour

RUGBY UNION: Grant Fox, New Zealand's record points scorer, has announced that he will be unavailable for the All Blacks tour of England and Scotland later this year because of business commitments. Fox, 31, who in 46 internationals has scored 645 points, said: "This is not an announcement of my retirement. I will not be making any decisions about my future in the game until early next year."



Courier ranked top

TENNIS: Jim Courier, who won the RCA championship in Indianapolis on Sunday with an impressive 7-5, 6-3 victory over Boris Becker, will start the US Open next Monday as the world No 1, taking over from Pete Sampras, the man who beat him in the Wimbledon final. Courier went through the week without losing a set, dropping his service only twice. "This is the best I have felt going into the US Open," Courier said after his fifth title of the year. Steffi Graf won her fifth consecutive tournament when she beat Jennifer Capriati 6-1, 6-3 to take the Canadian Open.

Fee fixed for Molloy

RUGBY LEAGUE: Steve Molloy, the Great Britain prop forward, who joined Featherstone Rovers a fortnight ago, was yesterday valued at £95,000 by the sport's independent tribunal, a figure substantially below that of the £160,000 being asked by Leeds, his former club. Featherstone had offered £50,000. The sum is binding and Featherstone will have to pay an additional £5,000 if Molloy, 24, whom they signed on a two-year contract, adds to his one cap gained in the 48-6 win in France last March. Molloy will make his debut in the championship match at Leigh on Sunday.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

BRITISH NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Play-offs: San Francisco 49ers 24, Los Angeles Raiders 17; Cleveland Browns 27, Pittsburgh Steelers 24; New York Jets 27, Buffalo Bills 24; Houston Oilers 27, Cincinnati Bengals 24; Oakland Raiders 27, San Diego Chargers 24; Denver Broncos 27, Kansas City Chiefs 24; Dallas Cowboys 27, New Orleans Saints 24; Minnesota Vikings 27, Chicago Bears 24; Green Bay Packers 27, Detroit Lions 24; Tampa Bay Buccaneers 27, Miami Dolphins 24; New England Patriots 27, New York Giants 24; Washington Redskins 27, Philadelphia Eagles 24; Atlanta Falcons 27, Carolina Panthers 24; Seattle Seahawks 27, San Francisco 49ers 24; St. Louis Rams 27, Los Angeles Rams 24; Tampa Bay Buccaneers 27, Miami Dolphins 24; New England Patriots 27, New York Giants 24; Washington Redskins 27, Philadelphia Eagles 24; Atlanta Falcons 27, Carolina Panthers 24; Seattle Seahawks 27, San Francisco 49ers 24; St. Louis Rams 27, Los Angeles Rams 24; Tampa Bay Buccaneers 27, Miami Dolphins 24; New England Patriots 27, New York Giants 24; 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Essex call off chase as Walsh applies restraint

By IVO TENNANT

BRISTOL (final day of four): Gloucestershire (7pts) drew with Essex (5)

A YEAR ago, Essex would have viewed making 325 in a day against the likes of Gloucestershire as almost a piffing exercise. There was no life in the pitch, nor, in the morning, in their opponents' bowling. Yet they managed to do no more than draw the match, which says much about why they will not be county champions again this season.

Essex batted soundly enough in the first two sessions. At tea they needed 155 from 35 overs, eight wickets in hand. It was the sort of target that, in the past, Graham Gooch and Ken McEwan would have reached without concerning themselves with taking short singles. Here, though, four of their upper order were not capped and, besides, Gloucestershire are no longer the soft touch they were a few weeks ago.

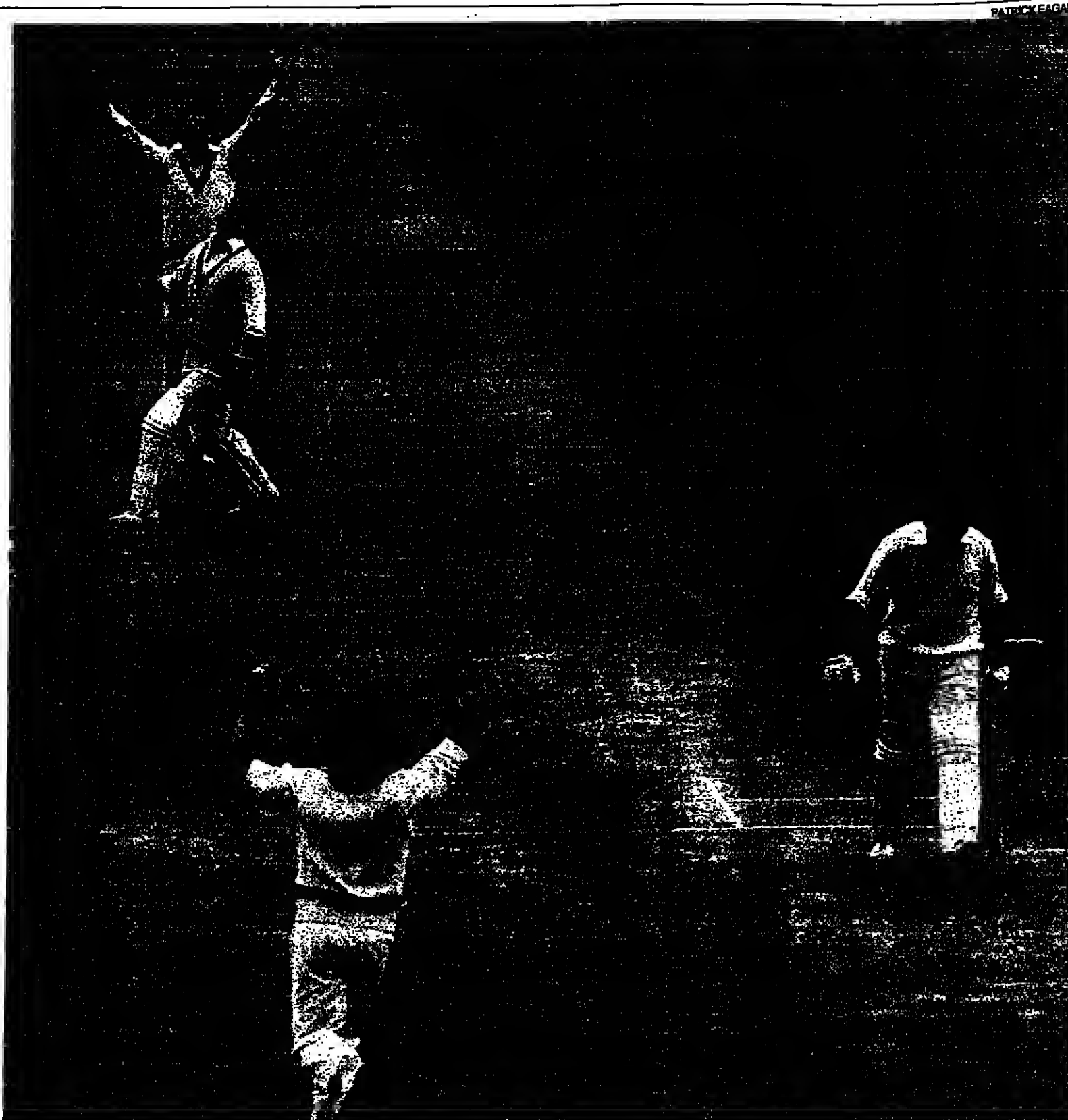
The most correct batting of the innings came from Robinson, 20, an opener from Braine in his second match. He put on 64 with the left-handed knight, who was eventually stumped through over-balancing when using his feet to Davies, and 76 with Lewis, who can never be said to give his wicket away.

Little troubled Robinson until Walsh, sensing in mid-afternoon that the only bowler who could turn the match on this unresponsive pitch was himself, had him taken at short-leg fending for dear life. Robinson is not the first young batsman to find that facing West Indian fast bowlers, who rarely offer anything of drivable length, is an alien game to what goes on in second XI cricket.

He had made 67 in a little more than three hours, square-driving to considerable effect, and, given the support he received from Knight and Lewis, Essex really should have won. Yet that spell by Gloucestershire's captain invigorated Cooper who, consummate professional that he is, not only kept a niggardly line but had Lewis caught just behind square and bowled Salim Malik off the inside edge and his pads.

Next, Walsh had Shahid taken at the wicket down the leg side. Even then, 118 off the last 20 overs was eminently feasible. Pritchard recovered after having had a viral infection for much of the match, was still there — he was dropped before scoring at mid-on off Babington — as was Gurnham, once Gloucestershire's wicketkeeper, and Pringle was still to come.

Whether it was the fact that Gooch and Hussain were not there to win the match for them, or merely that they have had a far worse season than they can have imagined, Essex were not suffused with confidence. Pritchard opted to fall back on defence and, although Walsh even gave himself an over or two of quickish off spin, Gloucestershire could make no further inroads.



Gooch starts what was to become a march into the record books after completing the pair of ducks with which he started his Test career in 1975

Leader who ended top of the class

Simon Barnes writes in praise of Graham Gooch, England captain and master of the art of batting

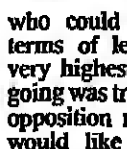


It is very easy to get a sense of historical perspective in sport. You simply go back about 12 months. That was when England were one of the best cricket teams in the world, and Graham Gooch was celebrated as the captain who had turned the tide of defeatism. Time passes; but in sport it passes with the crash and roar of an InterCity 125.

Yesterday Gooch's Test match season ended, after resigning the captaincy two matches ago. He is still unlikely to tour the Caribbean this winter. Gooch, then, is stepping aside from international cricket — I hope only temporarily — and he does so a little diminished in stature. Many questions have been asked about his leadership, and his team was reduced to a national laughing stock.

Gooch himself has escaped the Cap'n Cock-up jibes that followed some of his predecessors, mainly because his personal performances have been stunning. But his captaincy period, inextricably linked with Ted Dexter, goes into the ledger of public memory as a failure.

He is seen as a football type



who could not back it in terms of leadership, at the very highest level, when the going was truly tough and the opposition really excellent. I would like to redress this. Gooch's spell in charge has been a great success.

True, a losing sequence of seven defeats in last eight Tests takes a bit of laughing off. But let us throw a little historical perspective into the business. Twelve months back, his England side were involved in a neck-and-neck series with Pakistan, in the end decided by the genius of the Pakistan strike bowlers. Perhaps the whingeing that followed this had something to do with the rising tide of defeatism that followed.

Gooch also recorded series wins against New Zealand (twice) and India. But to take the measure of a modern Test cricketer, what counts is his performance against West Indies. Since the four-fast bowler era began, only one

England captain has a winning record against West Indies — Graham Gooch.

His personal count is 3-2. England lost the 1989-90 series in the Caribbean 2-1 — largely because Gooch was injured for the two defeats. He also led England in the pulsating 2-2 series in 1991: a series that produced one of the great England innings of modern times: 154 from Gooch at Headingley.

He replaced the mood of intermittently-inspired dilettantism that stemmed from Botham and to a lesser extent, Gower, and replaced it with hard-working professionalism. This at times veered towards self-parody, but the sense of added purpose it gave to the England side showed, in particular, against West Indies.

One is left wondering what went wrong, and why. True, there was the dreadfully mismanaged winter in Australia in 1990-1, the Biggles tour, in

which Gooch terminally lost faith with Gower. That might once have been regarded as no more than a blip on the score.

It is the recent period of decline that truly mystifies the 3-0 defeat in India, and the trouncing in this Ashes summer. The period coincides with the replacement of Micky Stewart with Keith Fletcher as manager. With Stewart, Gooch was, perhaps, the dominant partner, certainly an equal. With Fletcher, Gooch's Essex mentor for 25 years, the balance had changed. Perhaps with Fletcher, Gooch was less than himself: no longer a leader but a follower, no longer an officer but a faithful sergeant.

But perhaps his time has come, anyway: longevity is as hard to find in sport as historical perspective. Like everybody else, Gooch suffers from the limitations of his virtues. His preference has always been for players who are, in Kipling's phrase, "first-class of the second class... the very best type of second class."

He has preferred very good players who were all they

possibly could be, to players with higher gifts. He prefers the Stewarts of this world to the Gowers, the Suches to the Tufnells, setting his face against the notion that there is a place for both types in a cricket team. For a while, the policy worked well for him: it now stands exposed as a long-term strategy.

The irony is that Gooch is not first-class of the second class himself. He is not as fluent a batsman as Gower, but lacks his flightiness; he is not as destructive as Richards, but lacks his self-destructive streak. Gooch is a master of attack and of defence, a batsman for all seasons. Of all current players he is still the one to score a century for your life.

There is something of the throwback in Gooch. I think it is the white helmet and the moustache. He takes me back to the film *Zulu*; he looks like a moustache-armed pith-helmeted soldier about to win his VC at Rorke's Drift. He is the most successful England captain since Mike Brearley — but Brearley needed someone else to work miracles for him. Gooch had to do it himself.

Marshall traps Richards at vital moment

By JACK BAILEY

SWANSEA (final day of four): Hampshire (23pts) beat Glamorgan (4) by 98 runs

GLAMORGAN gave it all they had. Right down to the last bat-swinging player they kept on going for a win that had appeared to be a pipedream from the moment Nicholas declared Hampshire's innings shortly before lunch yesterday.

He asked Glamorgan to score 326 runs to win from 76 overs. The pitch was still slow, but from the pavilion end the odd ball turned and lifted unpredictably for Shaun Udal, who eventually benefited by taking five for 75. At the other end, Marshall produced one devastating burst that ripped the heart from Glamorgan's batting.

In terms of their championship aspirations Glamorgan had nothing to lose and there were times when, with luck and one really exceptional innings, they might just have turned the trick. Morris, yet again, led from the front.

David Hemp, a left-hander like Morris, also prospered, carrying on after Morris had become Udal's first victim, having made 60 in just over two hours and having formed with Dale a precarious platform for Glamorgan's assault.

Matters had slipped some way, though, by the time Hemp got into his stride. Cotley had wandered and been stumped; Dale was well caught at backward short-leg. From 110 for one Glamorgan had reached 171 for four when Viv Richards, playing his last game at Swansea, joined Hemp, who was now under full sail and nearing his half-century.

Normally, the stage would have been set for some vintage Richards. Hemp and Dale had just made 60 runs from only 12 overs and although Glamorgan still needed 152 and the overs were running out, a mastery innings from Richards in circumstances such as these was expected, if not demanded. But Richards was suffering from a chest infection, had not taken the field in the morning and doubts about his ability to work the usual magic were well founded.

He had played only two balls when Marshall bowled wide and short. Richards went for the cut. Marshall let out a wall like a banshee and, almost unbelievably, Richards was out, caught off the bottom edge by Aymes, who seems to become better with each game.

By now, Marshall, at half pace at the beginning of Glamorgan's innings, had worked up a head of steam. The wicket of Richards was just the spur he needed. The wickets of Croft, bowled off his pads and Metson, leg-before, followed in consecutive overs. Hemp had reached a fine half-century from only 61 balls, but he, too, left soon afterwards, the first of two victims for Udal in the same over and Hampshire were now within sight of their fourth championship win of the season, all of them oddly registered away from home.

Robinson strikes to secure win for Yorkshire

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

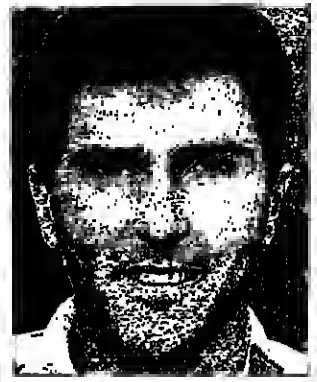
YORKSHIRE were indebted to their fast bowler, Mark Robinson, for their victory yesterday at Old Trafford in one of the best-contested Roses matches of recent years. Lancashire, in pursuit of a fourth-innings target of 334, which would have been a record for the fixture had they achieved it, fell 19 runs short, with Robinson taking six for 62.

Lancashire's fifth defeat in six matches saw them slip below Yorkshire in the table, but they emerged with credit from their bold effort. Wasim Akram was particularly unfortunate to finish on the losing side in a match in which he took 12 wickets.

Robinson put Yorkshire on top by removing John Crawley and Nick Speak before lunch, but his most valuable wicket might well have been that of Wasim when he had reached 39 and looked capable of snatching the game out of the fire.

Worcestershire, seven-tenths last season, continued their climb by beating Keoty by an innings and 130 runs at New Road, their sixth victory of the campaign.

Richard Illingworth, on his thirtieth birthday, ended as the most successful bowler with four for 68 as Kent were bowled out for 249 soon after



Robinson: six wickets

lunch. "If we can manage another couple of wins we can get amongst the prize-money," Tim Curtis, the Worcestershire captain, said. "But what has pleased me more than anything is the standard of cricket we have played."

Despite the loss of 16 overs to rain and some stubborn resistance from injury-hit Warwickshire, Durham climbed off the bottom of the table with a nine-wicket win at Darlington. Wayne Larkins scored an unbeaten 113, which included 17 fours and a six, to see them home with 4.3 overs to spare. Larkins, who went from 50 to 100 in 44 balls, shared a first-wicket partnership of 202 with Graeme Fowler (72).

Warwickshire, who had resumed at 226 for five, added a further 50 before losing four wickets for 33 runs to the new ball. Anderson Cummins finished with five for 83.

Pubudu Dasanayake, a wicketkeeper, and Upal Chandana, a leg spinner, are likely to make their debuts for Sri Lanka in the first Test against South Africa, starting tomorrow at Moratuwa.

Boardman bows out as amateur

By PETER BRYAN

CHRIS Boardman, the world one-hour record-holder and winner of the bronze medal in the 4,000 metres pursuit, will have his last ride as an amateur in Oslo tomorrow when he leads Britain's road squad in the 100km team time-trial at the world championships.

Boardman, 24, the Olympic track pursuit champion, confirmed that he has signed a letter of intent to join the French team, Gan, sponsored by one of the country's leading insurance companies, until the end of the year. After that he has the option of a two-year contract with the squad, which is led by Greg LeMond, a triple winner of the Tour de France.

Boardman was enthusiastic yesterday about his future. "I have negotiated what I consider to be a very fair contract which gives me 75 days of racing in 1994," he said. "It will also allow me to commute from home in Hioyake to European events. The other bonus, for me, is that Gan have agreed that I can have six weeks to prepare for next year's world pursuit championship in Sicily."

Boardman would not enlarge on the financial side of his two-year contract but said

that the terms were sufficiently attractive that he did not have "to push Gan to the limit."

His first race in the professional ranks is the GP Eddy Merckx, a 38-mile time-trial near Brussels on September 12. The next day he will be partnered by Claudio Chiappucci, of Italy, in the 40-mile Baden-Baden time-trial in Germany.

Boardman's 1994 racing programme has already been prepared and agreed. His season opens with the eight-day Paris-Nice race. Gan will be looking to Boardman to give the team a winning start in the opening day's prologue time-trial.



Boardman: enthusiastic

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Durham v Warwickshire

DARLINGTON (final day of four): Durham (23pts) beat Warwickshire (5) by nine wickets

WARWICKSHIRE: First innings 281 (P A Smith 55, S J E Brown 5 for 78)

Second innings

"A J Molec c Scott b Cummins 28

J O Ratcliffe b Gooch 28

O P Catter c Deller b Brown 28

Ard Din c Scott b Brown 28

R G Twiss c Pritchard b Gooch 28

P A Smith b Gooch 28

M K Smith c Scott b Cummins 28

A F Giles c Lattin b Cummins 28

N J Pugh c Scott b Cummins 28

M A V Ball c Bainbridge b Cummins 28

T L Henry not out 28

Extras (b 2, lb 16, w 4, rd 14) 28

Total 327

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-68, 3-142, 4-151, 5-200, 6-276, 7-281, 8-286, 9-309.

BOWLING: Cummins 22-4-4-82-6; Hughes 25-9-46-0; Brown 28-2-102-3; Bainbridge 12-3-28-0; Gooch 25-6-48-2.

DURHAM: First innings 289 (P W G Parker 150, J A Bailey 75, R G Twiss 4 for 82)

Second innings

G Fowler c Oller b Giles 72

W Larkins not out 113

P W G Parker not out 28

Extras (b 6, lb 11, w 2, rd 10) 28

Total (1 wk) 243

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-202

BOWLING: Bell 11-3-48-0; P A Smith 11-1-57-0; Twiss 10-2-48-0; M K Smith 11-3-1-48-0; Giles 4-0-27-1

Umpires: J H Hampshire and G I Burgess.

Glamorgan v Hampshire

SWANSEA (final day of four): Hampshire (23pts) beat Glamorgan (4) by 98 runs

HAMPSHIRE: First innings 417 (V P Tarry 174, M D Marshall 76 not out, A N Aymes 55, R D B Croft 5 for 157)

Second innings

R A Smith c Henry b Croft 42

V P Tarry c Lattin b Croft 42

O J Gower b Croft 42

M C J Hinchey c Guttery b Croft 42

R M F Cox not out 42

K O James not out 42

Extras (b 2, w 2) 42

Total (4 wickets) 192

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-84, 3-89, 4-188.

Worcestershire v Kent

WORCESTER (final day of four): Worcestershire (23pts) beat Kent (1) by an innings and 150 runs

KENT: First innings 180 (M A Ealham 54 not out, C M Tolley 5 for 55)

Second innings

O P Fulton c Rhodes b Worrall 28

T R Ward c Worrall b Tolley 28

N L Long c Currie b Worrall 28

C L Hooper c Haynes b Worrall 28

N R Taylor b Worrall 28

D W Headley c Lattin b D'Oliveira 28

M V Fleming b Worrall 28

15 A Marsh c Gooch b D'Oliveira 28

A P Eggleston not out 28

"M R Simpson absent but 28

Extras (b 2, w 1) 28

Total 249

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-74, 3-140, 4-141, 5-189, 6-189, 7-208, 8-238, 9-249.

BOWLING: Radford 16-2-57-2; Tolley 14-4-32-1; Worrall 34-16-88-4; Newport 16-3-48-0; Haynes 3-1-8-0; D'Oliveira 5-3-24-2.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First innings 589 for 7 (G R Haynes 158, T S Curtis 127, S J Rhodes 100 not out).

Umpires: J C Bolderston and B Leadbeater.

Gloucestershire v Essex

BRISTOL (final day of four): Gloucestershire (7pts) drew with Essex (5)

GLoucestershire: First innings 320 (M W Alleyne 104, T H C Hancock 52)



Shaun Udal: 5 for 75 for Hampshire

Lancashire v Yorkshire

OLD TRAFFORD (final day of four): Yorkshire (21pts) beat Lancashire (4) by 76 runs

YORKSHIRE: First innings 242 (M P Vaughan 84, A P Grayson 54, Wasim Akram 8 for 68)

Second innings 258 (D Byne 72, R B Richardson 50, Wasim Akram 4 for 57)

Lancashire: First innings 167 (G D Mendis 63)

Second innings

G O Mendis c Byes b Robinson 28

J P Crawley b Marshall 28

R C Imani c Richardson b Robinson 28

M J Steele c Bailey b Robinson 28

"M H Pritchard b Currie 28

M Worrall b Robinson 28

Wasim Akram b Robinson 28

P A J DeSilva c White b Hartley 28

K Hogg c Bailey b Hartley 28

P J Marsh not out 28

G Chapple b Gough 28

Extras (b 4, lb 8, w 1, rd 16) 28

Total 314

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-80, 2-60, 3-133, 4-151, 5-200, 6-235, 7-251, 8-254, 9-307.

BOWLING: Gough 25-4-101-1; Robinson 33-14-85-8; Hartley 10-1-80-2; Currie 30-11-56-1; Vaughan 10-1-18-0; White 5-1-10-0.

Umpires: H O Bird and K E Palmer.

TOUR MATCH (first day of three): Dundee School v West Indies Under-19

CHERTENHAM 183 not out, Ventura 52 and 102-3 (A Percival 70 not out); Development of Scotland XI 157-3 (G D Battersby 84, C Riko 80) and 154-7 (R Veeley 71 not out). Match drawn.

TABLE

Midlands (11): 14 0 4 34 61 945

Gloucestershire (14): 14 7 4 34 61 945

Surrey (13): 14 5 3 33 54 183

Nottingham (12): 13 4 3 32 45 180

Worcestershire (17): 13 4 3 32 45 180

Nottingham (12): 13 4 3 32 45 180

Somerset (9): 13 3 1 19 43 157

Leeds (8): 12 3 3 20 46 146

Kent (2): 14 4 6 31 44 136

Dorsetshire (5): 14 4 6 31 44 136

Yorkshire (15): 12 3 5 15 43 136

Warwickshire (9): 14 7 3 21 47 152

Hampshire (18): 13 4 5 32 58 131

Essex (11): 12 3 4 30 46 146

Lancashire (12): 13 4 3 31 43 128

Sussex (7): 13 3 4 28 41 115

Durham (16): 14 2 8 30 44 139

Gloucestershire (10): 12 3 8 31 47 132

Official scorers: Nottinghamshire's points total has been reduced by one because their 100-over total against Gloucestershire in May was recorded as 298 for eight and has been changed to 246 for seven.

Play always stops

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (78417)
7.00 BBC News (44110724)
9.05 Cloning Around: Sim betrays Analole's trust (1) (CeeFax) (4450569)
9.35 Why Don't You...? Visit an open farm or make a puppet (1). (CeeFax) (s) (2681540)
10.00 News (CeeFax) Regional news and weather (1656786) 10.05 Playdays (1) (s) (3581453) 10.25 Get Your Own Back (1) (s) (358873) 10.40 The O-Zone Pop music magazine (s) (6338417)
11.00 News (CeeFax) Regional news and weather (6043837) 11.05 Carol and Co Spool film not with Carol Burnett (s) (6332144)
11.30 Come Dancing 1993. Britain v Holland (1). (CeeFax) (s) (3298) 12.00 Regional News (1339328)
12.05 Pop Goes Summer. A profile of Sade (2080960)
12.25 UK Summer Special Olympics. Highlights from Sheffield, presented by Nick Owen (s) (8028724)
12.35 Regional news and weather (17091434)
1.00 One O'Clock News with John Tusa. (CeeFax) Weather (26618)
1.30 Neighbours (CeeFax) (s) (8073960)
1.50 Going for Gold. European quiz (s) (8074907)
2.15 For the Term of His Natural Life. Second of a three-part Australian drama (1). (CeeFax) (770892)
3.45 The Flintstones. Prehistoric cartoon (1) (5713927)
4.10 Children's BBC: Quick Draw (1) (5208237) 4.20 Sassafras. Cycling from Belgium (s) (2661415) 4.35 Run the Risk. Game show (1) (3575053) 5.00 Newsround (2664811) 5.10 Arthur's Garden. 7.30-8.00 A six-part drama serial (1). (CeeFax) (s) (3517141)
5.35 Neighbours (1). (CeeFax) (s) (403569) Northern Ireland. Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Mora Stuart (CeeFax) Weather (415)
6.30 Regional news magazines (845) Northern Ireland. Neighbours (1). (CeeFax) (s)
7.00 The Brittas Empire: The Trial. One Barrie, as the insufferable manager of a leisure centre, is accused of murder (1). (CeeFax) (s) (16785)



Pat (Pam St Clement) walks free (7.30pm)

- 7.30 EastEnders. Pat is released from prison. With Pam St Clement. (CeeFax) (s) (279)
8.00 The Good Life. Richard Briers and Felicity Kendal as the self-sufficient Goods (1). (CeeFax) (5434)
8.30 May to December. The generation-gap comedy ends the present series with Alec and Zoe arguing about Fleur's godparents. Starring Anton Rodgers and Lesley Dunlop (1). (CeeFax) (s) (4569)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Weather (2705)
9.30 French and Saunders. In the last in the series, Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders sing a lusty rendition of "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" (1). (CeeFax) (s) (31705)
10.00 Film: The Year of Living Dangerously (1983) starring Mel Gibson. Australian reporter Guy Hamilton arrives in Indonesia as the country spirals over into revolution. Sigourney Weaver provides the love interest, but Linda Hunt, as the enigmatic photographer Billy Kwon, won an Oscar. Directed by Peter Weir (CeeFax) (s) (14075)
11.50 Weather (567347). Ends at 11.55
2.15am-2.45 BBC Select. Executive Business Club (56569). 3.15-3.45 BBC Select. Legal Network Television (82535)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University. Geology: From Snowdon to the Sea (2457540) 7.10 Biology. Plant Growth Regulators (7989724) 7.35 Geology: Fossils (5077057) 8.00 Breakfast News (4663988)
8.15 Ghostwriter (1) (1210705)
8.40 Under Sail. Cambridge Sailing Club (1) (4937453)
9.00 Film: Two Mugs from Brooklyn (1942, b/w). Amusing romp starring William Bendix and Joe Sawyer as New York taxi drivers (S140518)
10.10 Film: The Gay Desperado (1936, b/w) starring Ida Lupino and Nico Martin. Farouk musical about a jovial Mexican bandito who kidnaps a famous tenor. Directed by Rouben Mamoulian (9437368)
11.35 Laurel and Hardy Double Bill: Our Wife (992637) and, at 11.55 Twice Two (689660)
12.15 Portrait from on High. The first programme in a new series on French life looks at women of the mountain regions of Haute Savoie (7342095)
2.30 A Girl Named Devika. Film about a Bombay design student who is caught between Indian and western cultures (1) (805558)
1.20 Fireman Sam. Arnhem quiz (1) (82356427)
1.30 The Family Nook. Cartoon (1) (9335807)
1.35 Discovering Birds (1) (19988231)
2.00 News and weather (9428250) followed by The Real Food of China (1) (1431434)
2.30 News and weather (1707618) followed by Australia. Jack Pizzey explores the Australian way of life (1) (8663502). Including at 3.50 News (CeeFax) and weather (1714161)
4.00 Film: Forbidden Cargo (1954, b/w) starring Nigel Patrick. Modigliani crime drama about an ambitious customer agent's hunt for drug-traffickers. Directed by Harold French (1028368)
5.25 Town Portraits. Middleton in Teesdale. County Durham (1) (8658250)
5.30 Akamas. Developers on the Akamas peninsula of Cyprus threaten the logghead turtle (144)
6.00 Film: Sande of two Jims (1948, b/w) starring John Wayne as a tough marine sergeant leading the assault on a Japanese-held island in the Pacific. Directed by Allan Dwan (5375568)



High-rise architect Philip Johnson (7.45pm)

- 7.45 Master Builders (1) (s) See Choice (804768)
8.30 Far Flung Floyd. (CeeFax) See Choice (5811)
9.00 Quantum Leap. (CeeFax) (s) (800788)
9.45 Storm from the East: Tatar Crusades. The story of how the Mongols prepared to invade the Holy Land. (CeeFax) (s) (454453)
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron. (CeeFax) (180957)
11.15 The Art of St Ives. The Cornish resort lies at the centre of British art history (232873)
11.55 Weather (557960)
12.00 The Jewish Experience. The Jews and Islam. The differences between Jewish, Christian and Islamic societies (10748). Ends at 12.30am
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CHOICE

Rear Window: Memories of Sekoto
Channel 4, 9.00pm
Tonight's programme is a welcome tribute to the late South African artist Gerard Sekoto, featuring an interview with the painter himself. In the South Africa of the 1930s and 1940s, black people were not expected to be artists, but Sekoto's vivid paintings of township life eventually got him noticed. All the same, his feelings of being "the only black painter" made him leave for Paris in 1947. Here he relished the artistic freedom but was confused by his inability to focus on his new surroundings. At one time admitted to a mental asylum, Sekoto seems always to have lacked confidence, yet his acclaimed work has proved an inspiration for a whole new generation of black artists.

Master Builders
BBC2, 7.45pm
This Late Show special, repeated here as the first of three profiles of leading architects, takes a long hard look at the phenomenally successful American, Philip Johnson. Nicknamed "the Godfather", Johnson has placed skyscrapers in a succession of American cities, being responsible for New York's influential Seagram and American Telephone and Telegraph Company buildings among others. Now in his eighties, he is a media darling willing to talk about anything from copying other architects' work to once being a fan of Hitler. His critics are vicious about his manipulation of power over the decades but Johnson denies that he is a menacing character. "I love little kittens," he says.

Summer's Out: It's a Queer World
Channel 4, 11.00pm
Channel 4 may be serving up a hefty dollop of gay programmes at the moment, but what of the rest of the world's television? Tune in for a man's tour of global gaiety courtesy of the glamorous Lily Savage. Some of the shows are predictable. We see rock group the Pansy Division getting frisky on San Francisco's *Leveller Lounge* and a campy harmonious group called the *Fluturians* on *North America's in the Life*. There are also some surprises, such as the Dutch. As well as having a lewd cable version of *Blind Date*, they have *The Theo and Theo Show*, an incredible children's television offering which explains homosexuality by saying things such as: "If your mother has rough legs, she's a lesbian".



Keith Floyd on food's ying and yang (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Far Flung Floyd: Hoog Kong
BBC2, 8.30pm
Keith Floyd's outlandish cookery series reaches its conclusion tonight with a jaunty report on cuisine in Hong Kong. Floyd is in his element, gabbling about ingredients' yin and yang (coolness and heat), lighting the dragon-like wok and in an amusing scene defiantly cooking on the quayside despite loud protests from the water taxi company behind him. The food is cooked with a rapidity and abandon which suits Floyd very well. Best of all, for every fry-up of prawns or lobster, there are large sloshes of rice wine, both in the wok and down Floyd's throat.

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 GMTV (4600368)
9.25 Adventure of the Galaxy Rangers. Cartoon series (1) (5115569) 9.50 London Today (2916231)
9.55 Anna - Ballerina. Anna rejects the Paris scholarship (1) (s) (5773347) 10.55 News headlines (6331692)
11.00 James Bond Jr. Cartoon (5358569) 11.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Charade game show (6328328)
11.55 London Today (9965279)
12.00 Cartoon (7327786) 12.10 Wizzadora (1) (2012569)
12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Julia Somerville (Teletext) Weather (8690935) 1.05 London Today (8458927)
1.15 Home and Away (Teletext) (88076)
1.45 A Country Practice. Medical drama (s) (867347)
2.15 The Earth Dwellers' Guide. Includes reports on an alien life form, a friendly lizard, and a report on home aromatherapy kits (852328)
2.45 Families. Last in the series of the Anglo-Australian soap (s) (3139163) 3.40 News headlines (1758908)
3.45 London Today (1757279)
3.50 Children's ITV: Fraggle Rock (1) (1738144) 4.00 Rubbish - King of the Jungle. Cartoon (s) (12675347) 4.15 Hula Hoop. Animation (1) (2744960) 4.40 Children's Ward. Hospital drama series (1) (Teletext) (s) (6792340)
5.10 Home and Away (1) (Teletext) (2854724)
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Teletext)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (25328)
7.00 Emmerdale. Annie (Shelia Mercer) makes an announcement (Teletext) (4182)
7.30 Inside Crime. John Taylor and Fiona Oates meet a victim who exposed a burglary racket, and report on fingerprint credit cards (s) (347)



Trudie Goodwin uses her intuition (8.00pm)

- 8.00 The Bill. Desperate Measures. WPC Ackland (Trudie Goodwin) has to decide whether a 15-year-old boy or his mother is at risk. (Teletext) (3142)
8.30 The Cook Report. Another expose by the investigative reporter Roger Cook (9637)
9.00 Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods. Glossy American mini series starring Jaclyn Smith and Robert Wagner. The newly appointed American ambassador in Rome becomes an assassin's target. Continues after the news (1). (Teletext) (8095)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) Weather (90144) 10.30 London Tonight (930673)
10.40 Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods continued. The concluding part can be seen tomorrow at 9pm (1). (Teletext) (105058)
11.25 Castle Spide. The Italian Lorenzo. Introduces highlights of a first division London match and action in the Coca-Cola Cup first round (69729)
12.10am Prisoner. Cell Block H (9555670)
1.00 The Little Picture Show. Video reviews (37125)
2.00 Nigel Mansell's IndyCar '93. Highlights of the 12th race from Elkhart Lake in Wisconsin (55019)
2.30 The Making of Contact (1985). Starring Joshua Morley. A fantasy thriller in which a boy with psychic powers discovers that he can talk with his dead father on his joy telephone. Directed by Roland Emmerich (95361)
4.00 The Beat. Featuring the Curve, Bivouac and Voodoo Queens (1) (s) (30593)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (93632)
5.30 ITN Morning News (36813). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.30 Heathcliff. Cartoon adventures of the naughty cat (1713250) 6.45 Wower. Doggy tales (1938705)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (48569)
9.00 Saved by the Bell. American high school comedy series (30291)
9.30 Star Street. Adventures of the zodiac cartoon characters (1) (2932279) 9.55 Kid 'n Play. Cartoon fun (1) (2690298)
10.25 Kelly. Police dog antics (1) (2933908) 10.55 The Adventures of Tintin. Hergé's hero searches for a rocket ship in which to go to the moon (1) (5653124)
11.20 The Henderson Kids. Australian drama (1) (6350227) 11.50 Little Jack Little. Lester Colt stars in a short film from 1934 (778250)
12.00 High 5. Sporting feats (1) (17057) 12.30 Sesame Street. The Four Tops make a guest appearance on the early-learning programme (89453)
1.30 Alfred J. Kwak. Adventures of a musical duck (1) (30250)
2.00 Film: Born to Dance (1936, b/w) starring Eleanor Powell and James Stewart. Lively Cole Porter/MGM musical about a sailor on leave in New York who meets a girl in a lonely-hearts club. Directed by Roy Del Ruth (608960)
3.55 The Secret Life of... The Quartz Watch. Tim Hunkin demonstrates what happens when you put a quartz watch in an oven (1). (Teletext) (9707453)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Madeley hosts the words and number quiz. (Teletext) (s) (693)
5.00 Oprah Gold. Oprah Winfrey cross-examines Lee, a grandmother who hired a hit man to kill her son-in-law (1). (Teletext) (7994076)
5.50 The Magic Roundabout (52163)
6.00 Mork and Mindy. Robin Williams stars as the alien from the planet Mork (1) (443)
6.30 Roseanne. Darlene (Sara Gilbert) decides to wear nothing except black and to do nothing except watch television (1) (Teletext) (s) (705)
7.00 Channel 4 News presented by Jon Snow. (Teletext) Weather (422366)
7.50 Comix. John Richards thinks that subsidies for the arts should be cut (561106)
8.00 Free for All. Freelance reporter Joan Philips questions journalists' coverage of the civil war in Bosnia (8144)
8.30 Pacific Station: Love and Death. Robert Guillaume stars in the American comedy series set in a Venice Beach police station. Bob is off the duty roster because of a computer malfunction. (Teletext) (s) (7279)



Tribute to the artist Gerald Sekoto (8.00pm)

- 9.00 Rear Window: Memories of Sekoto. See Choice (82812)
9.45 Four-Matons. Winners. Mario Cavalli's animated and live-action film describes a summer's day in London's Soho Square (1) (865927)
10.00 Summer's Out: Forbidden Love. A portrait of lesbian relationships in Canada during the 1950s and 1960s, through interviews with women and fictional love stories by the novelist Anne Bannon. (Teletext) (541279)
11.40 Summer's Out: It's a Queer World. See Choice (219057)
12.30am James Taylor. The singer-songwriter James Taylor, recorded in concert in Baden-Baden, Germany, in 1986 (1) (s) (95563) Ends at 1.30

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
As London except 8.25am COPS (5116259) 1.00pm-1.15 Anglia News (3505427) 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters (2547423) 6.00 Home and Away (955535) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (75056) 7.30-8.00 Countrywide (547) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News (60073) 11.25 Prisoner. Cell Block H (35673) 12.25am Film: Under the Skin (54876) 1.45-2.15 Home and Away (955535) 2.30-3.00 The ITV Chart Show (754835) 3.10 The ITV Chart Show (354274) 4.00 On the Live Show (75699) 4.30 News (3554003) 4.55-5.30 Jeopardy
- CENTRAL**
As London except 8.25am Ferdinand the Bull and Moley (5116259) 1.00pm Central News (5448627) 1.15 A Country Practice (54876) 1.45-2.15 Home and Away (955535) 2.30-3.00 The ITV Chart Show (754835) 3.10 The ITV Chart Show (354274) 4.00 On the Live Show (75699) 4.30 News (3554003) 4.55-5.30 Jeopardy
- GRANDADE**
As London except 8.25am COPS (5116259) 1.00pm Grandade News

- TYNE-TEES**
As London except 8.25am COPS (5116259) 1.00pm Tyne Tees News (92844304) 1.10-1.15 Lookaround (92844304) 5.55 Tyne Tees Today (45279) 6.25-7.00 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 7.30-8.00 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 8.25-9.00 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 9.30-10.00 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 10.30-10.40 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 11.25 The Big Breakfast (45699) 12.25am Tyne Tees News (92844304) 1.45-2.15 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 2.30-3.00 Tyne Tees News (92844304) 3.10 The ITV Chart Show (754835) 3.10 The ITV Chart Show (354274) 4.00 On the Live Show (75699) 4.30 News (3554003) 4.55-5.30 Jeopardy
- WESTCOUNTRY**
As London except 8.25am The Hunted (80747) 1.15-1.45 The Young Doctors (80747) 2.15-2.45 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.10-3.15 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.15-3.20 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.20-3.25 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.25-3.30 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.30-3.35 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.35-3.40 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.40-3.45 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.45-3.50 The Young Doctors (80747) 3.50-4.00 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.00-4.05 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.05-4.10 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.10-4.15 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.15-4.20 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.20-4.25 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.25-4.30 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.30-4.35 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.35-4.40 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.40-4.45 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.45-4.50 The Young Doctors (80747) 4.50-5.00 The Young Doctors (80747) 5.00-5.05 The Young Doctors (80747) 5.05-5.10 The Young Doctors (80747) 5.10-5.15 The Young Doctors (80747) 5.15-5.20 The Young Doctors (80747) 5.20-5.25 The Young 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TUESDAY AUGUST 24 1993

Recalled bowlers seal first Test victory over Australia since 1986

England's run of misery ends



Watkin and wicketkeeper Stewart celebrate the fall of another Australian wicket as Taylor chops the ball onto his stumps at the Oval yesterday morning

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE OVAL (final day of five):
England beat Australia by 161 runs

AMID the sort of scenes that older England players had forgotten and the rest had never experienced, Australia were beaten at last yesterday. Seven balls into the final hour of the sixth Cornhill Test match, Angus Fraser completed a triumphant comeback with the wicket that has implications beyond the euphoria of the one match. England had lost nine out of ten Test matches since last August and not beaten Australia in their previous 18 games, the longest run of failure in Ashes Tests. Such harrowing statistics had jaundiced the public and drained the confidence of the players. Quite simply, they had forgotten how to win, and the benefits to be gained from this result are incalculable.

The Ashes series was lost, and Australia were never at their sharpest in this final match, but England played with purpose and authority and deserved to win. They can now go to the Caribbean early next year in a more optimistic mood than had seemed likely. Just as important, they can go with Fraser, who claimed eight wickets and displayed all his old accuracy. It was the most heartening sight of the summer.

This was a day which might have come from the yellowed pages of generations-old

newspaper, when this improbable cricket ground, hemmed in by gasholders and rumbling commuter traffic, always seemed to produce full houses celebrating famous England wins. Last night, London's evening paper rushed out a special late edition with the simple headline "We've won it". Was it not always like this?

Traffic around the Oval was at a standstill throughout the morning — though this had more to do with a lights failure than the cricket — but the crowd swelled steadily to a peak of 12,000 as desks were vacated by news of the impending rare win.

When, in the penultimate

over of the afternoon session, Australia declined to 143 for eight, England's consolation was at hand. But it was another 80 minutes, and 22 increasingly anxious over, before Stuart Warne, Australia's man of the series, was leg-before to Fraser, the man of the match.

Graham Gooch was alone among this England side in ever having played in a win over Australia and so he was the first to recall the tradition of grabbing a souvenir stump. Soon, the rest were snapped up and there were hugs and handshakes all round.

It was a considerable achievement to bowl out the Australians in a day. As in the

first innings, the wickets were shared by the reconstituted seam attack, though this time the sequence was different: it was Watkin who made the essential early breach, Malcolm who dealt with the middle-order and Fraser who prised out the tail.

Australia did not bat with distinction, certainly not in the style to which they have grown accustomed. Three men fell to the pull shot, on a pitch where extra bounce made it an obvious risk. Two more Slater and Border, fell to wicket-keeping catches when they plainly believed, probably correctly, that no relevant contact had been made. Even the umpiring, which has more

often than not worked against England, now went in their favour.

Watkin was the bowler to profit from the first dubious decision, and it inspired him to a spell as significant as the one he bowled in the Headingley victory over West Indies two years ago. He was in only his second over of the morning and Slater had worked the previous ball through mid-wicket with that elastic certainty of his. The next reared from just short of a length and appeared to reach Stewart via Slater's armguard.

The reaction of Slater, on seeing umpire Meyer's raised finger, was incredulous. He was matched by David Boon, who played no stroke to Watkin's next ball and was dispatched leg-before. This one, however, was a sound decision, and when Taylor, thrusting with crooked bat, dragged on to his stumps during the following Watkin over, Australia were 30 for three.

If anyone was going to sort out the mess it was Border, and in 90 minutes up to lunch, he and Mark Waugh batted with certainty. Ladbroke made the draw 7-2 on at the interval; three balls later, they were revising the odds as Border, pushing forward to Malcolm, was adjudged caught behind.

Like Slater before him, Border stayed an unrepentant time after the decision, which was either a statement of dissent or, more charitably, a last look round after his final

innings in England. Whatsoever, Malcolm was now operating at full throttle and after defeating Steve Waugh with a snorting lifter, he dismissed his twin in an altogether softer way. With two men dismissed for the hook, Mark Waugh obligingly accepted the bait and hit the short ball straight to Ramprakash at backward square-leg.

Healy, so often the break-water to any rising tide of English hope, failed to survive the next over, getting too close to a jerky pull against Watkin and top-edging it over first slip, from where Maynard sprinted 15 yards to take the catch.

Steve Waugh and Hughes resisted for 21 overs, but Atherton was having one of those days on which every bowling change worked. Summoning Malcolm once more, he saw him fire a yorker into Waugh's pads, first ball. From the other end, Fraser accounted for Hughes with the sucker short ball.

Warne and Reiffel dived the end in a curiously cavalier stand worth 74 for the ninth wicket. Then Fraser deceived Reiffel into a checked drive and hurled the catch skywards. Warne was out four overs later and as the sun shone on a jubilant crowd, the pavilion, looking from the pavilion, might fleetingly have thought he was not leaving a team in such bad shape after all.

Atherton takes leaf out of Border's book

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

HOWEVER ably he handled his players during his first Test win as England captain, Michael Atherton's *seigneurial* at the subsequent press conference exceeded the normal call of duty.

An encounter with a tabloid journalist who appeared to be under the misapprehension that he was questioning the manager of a lower division football club, represented the greatest chasm of IQ since Isaiah Berlin last greeted his dustmen.

All Atherton has to do now is pick a side to beat West Indies. As a matter of course he was non-committal about the team's composition. "I have an idea of which kind of player should go but I have not thought too specifically about the side. There is plenty of time for that."

One thing is clear. It will be predominantly a side of young cricketers with reputations to make, not regain: in short a side similar to the one which ended a summer of woeful under-achievement with this thumping win. That, said Atherton, was "vital", and acquainted those young men with a winning atmosphere.

"I have taken a lot of heavy defeats at the hands of the Australians so it is nice to get one back," he added. Defeat can sometimes bring knowledge, however painful the learning. Atherton admitted the lessons he has absorbed from Border's captaincy of a successful side would help him to re-model the England team.

Border had no quibbles: "England outplayed us in all respects on a very good pitch. In a way I am glad they played to something of their potential so that people can see how well we played to win four Tests. Maybe we deserve a few accolades."

He was "a bit sad" to be taking his leave of England as the captain of Australia. "I have always maintained that this has been the most enjoyable place to play cricket." When England go to Australia in 15 months time he may be plain Allan Border, of Queensland.

He has not yet concluded

his business in Test cricket, with home and away series against South Africa this winter. He awaits the return of Craig McDermott and Bruce Reid and hopes for the emergence of Damien Martyn and Matthew Hayden as fully-fledged Test batsmen.

Border was gracious about England's prospects, with an important caveat. "There is talent here but it is a question of getting the combination right. With Devon Malcolm and Angus Fraser in the side, they really put it in us in this game."

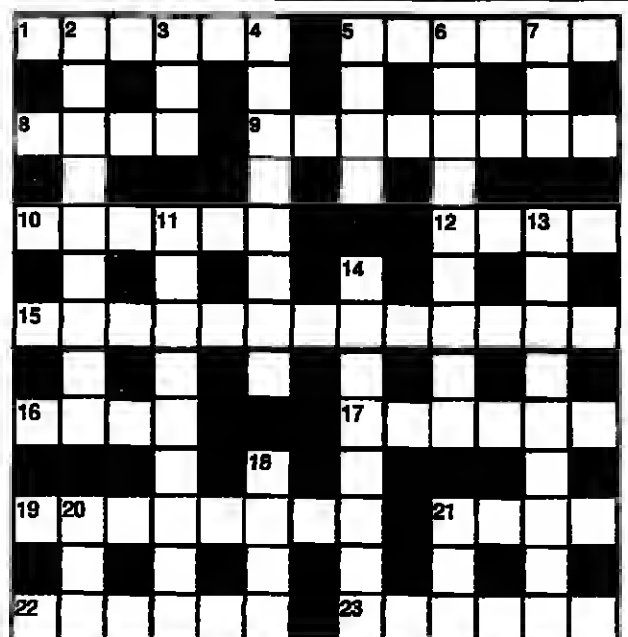
Spirit, Atherton called it. "We showed the fight here which I hope to see in an England side. We need to play more aggressively and I hope we can build a side

which can win the Ashes the next time round."

Border also led the tributes to Graham Gooch. "I'd like Graham to be going to the Caribbean," Border said. "If someone could persuade him to go, you will have a sniff over there."

Atherton agreed: "Goochie has been outstanding this summer and a great help. It would be nice if he was in the West Indies, but it wouldn't be right if his heart wasn't fully in it."

So ends a summer adorned by Gooch, Boon, Hughes, and, above all, Warne. For England it is no end at all, nor even the beginning of the end. But with a new captain in charge, it may be the end of the beginning.



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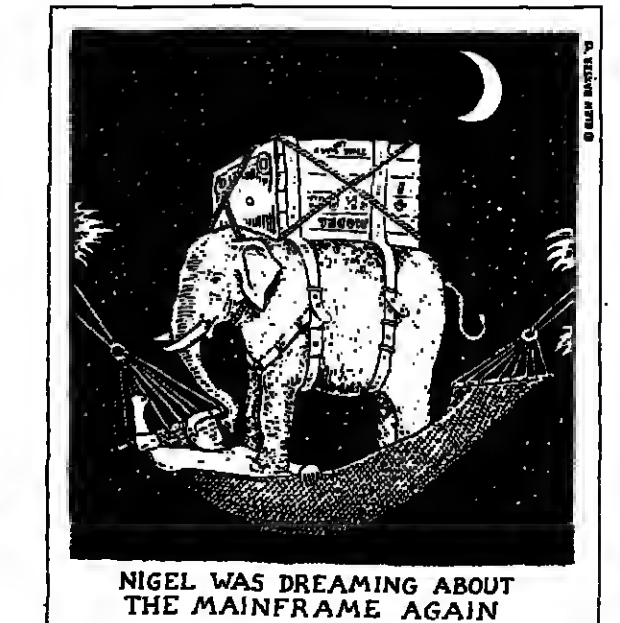
ACROSS
1 Light open truck (4,2)
5 Fresh (6)
8 Remain (4)
9 Friendly (8)
10 Chest (6)
12 Laborious trek (4)
15 Comparative worth (8,5)
16 Most excellent (4)
17 Fly larva (6)
19 Document destroyer (8)
21 Examine by touch (4)
22 Forge (6)
23 Muslim women's areas (6)

DOWN
2 Meddle (9)
3 Look lever (3)
4 Ribwort weed (8)
5 Destroy (4)
6 WJid comedy troupe (5,4)
7 No score (3)
11 Flat (9)
13 Stately tomb (9)
14 Soft (8)
18 Lazily (4)
20 Leg back (3)
21 In favour (3)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3181
ACROSS: 1 Drips and drabs 8 Aisle 9 Catcall 10 Ere
11 Tulip 12 Tempest 14 Mantra 16 Red hot 20 Naughty
23 Acute 24 Sum 25 Habitué 26 Philat 27 Peace offering
DOWN: 1 Draftsmanship 2 Insulin 3 Sleeper 4 Nickety
5 Datum 6 Adage 7 Salute the flag 13 Pod 15 Tag 17 Example
18 Houdini 19 Myself 21 Umbra 22 Hythe

WINNING MOVE
By Raymond Keene
This position is a variation from the game Prasad - Kanitall, Hyderabad 1992. White's queen and rook are both threatened. Can he do better than exchanging queens?
For attractive travel packages to The Times World Championship match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short, which starts on September 7 at the Savoy Theatre in London, ring Travelcoast on 081-744 9494.

WORD-WATCHING
By Philip Howard
FRIMAIRE
a. A village mayor
b. A type of sow's cheese
c. A revolutionary month
GRAMME
a. A card game
b. A toasting spit
c. Anger
CANDICANT
a. A singing beggar
b. Truthful hypocrisy
c. Tending to white
COFF
a. To cough
b. To buy
c. Coffee mousse
Answers on page 32



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